## School Dog Risk Assessment Form

| Risk assessment carried out by - Mrs J Graham | Job title -Headteacher | Date of assessment - 01/04/22 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Review interval - 6 monthly | Date reviews carried out - |  |


| Staff/Children covered by this assessment - Staff and children at Consett Infant School | Activities involved - Dogs in school |
| :--- | :--- |


| RISK RATING | Likelihood |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Probable <br> Occurs repeatedly, to be expected or <br> could affect large number of people | Possible <br> Could occur sometime or effect a few <br> people | Remote <br> Unlikely to occur or not many people <br> to be affected |  |
| Impact | Major <br> Major injury, permanent disability or ill-health | High | High | Medium |
|  | Severe <br> Injury requiring medical treatment | High | Medium | Low |
|  | Minor <br> First aid treatment | Medium | Low | Low |

School dog will be brought into school on a weekly basis to support children with emotional well being and reading. Children will never be left unsupervised with the dog and the dog will be kept on a lead at all times around children. The dog will have a safe space in the room adjoining the classroom with a crate provided for security.

| Hazards / issue | Risk rating H/M/L (before) | Controls already in place | Further Action required | Risk Rating H/M/L (after) | By Whom \& When |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dog getting over excited when interacting with children <br> Child knocked to the ground. <br> Child scratched by dog. <br> $>$ Child bitten by dog. | H | - The dog will always be in the care of a responsible adult and will never be allowed to roam freely around the school premises. <br> - Children will not be left unsupervised with the dog. <br> - The dog will always be on a lead when they | - Sign posted around school with rules for when the dog is in school. | L | Ongoing All Staff |


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| Hazards / issue | Risk rating H/M/L (before) | Controls already in place | Further Action required |  |  | Risk Rating H/M/L (after) | By Whom \& When |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | are not in their crate. <br> - Pupils have been and will continue to be taught about the consequences of their actions. <br> - Education of this nature is continually given to children, and often to the whole school through assemblies and PSHE sessions. <br> - Pupils will be taught what to do to prevent the dog from chasing them. <br> - The dog will also undergo conditioning to the school classroom environment, this training will ensure future therapy or reading sessions to involve the school dog can be done in a calming/therapeutic manner. <br> - All staff will have been introduced to the dog and expectations of having a school dog. <br> - The dog will attend the vets regularly to ensure she is in good health and that her claws are kept short. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| The dog gets loose from her crate or lead. | L | - The dog's crate is big enough for them to be happy and safe during the school day and the children are taught not to tease them. <br> - The crate will remain in the room adjoining the classroom so there is supervision with children at all times. | - Adequate secu | te purchased |  | L | Ongoing |  |
| The dog causing allergies. <br> Children or staff have allergic reactions | M | - Parents have been asked to inform the school of any known allergies before the introduction of the dog to the school. <br> - A list of any children/staff who should not interact with the dog will kept on the school SIMs system. <br> - The children will have the opportunity to interact with the dog as they wish and those with allergies will be able to opt out of | - Consent letter of allergies | arents to collec | tails | L | MW |  |
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| Hazards / issue | Risk rating H/M/L (before) | Controls already in place | Further Action required | Risk Rating H/M/L <br> (after) | By Whom \& When |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | interaction. <br> - Children will be taught to wash their hands regularly |  |  |  |
| Children getting germs from the dog. <br> Children or staff will contract diseases that can be carried by dogs. | M | - Should the dog defecate on the school site a member of staff will clear this up immediately and dispose of it in a safe way. <br> - The dog will be trained to toilet in an area of the grounds that children have limited access to. <br> - The area will be disinfected as required. <br> - All immunisations are kept up to date in accordance with the European Pet Passport Scheme and a record will be kept of this. <br> - Flea treatment is carried out at 6 week intervals. <br> - The dog will not be allowed in the school dining hall at meal times; and never in the food preparation area <br> - Children will wash their hands immediately after contact. | - Copy of vaccines to be kept with this risk assessment. | L | MG |
| Financial cost of the dog's upkeep <br> School unable to afford the ongoing cost of the dog's day to day upkeep or medical bills | L | - The dog is ultimately the responsibility of Mrs Gates both in a well -being and financial aspect. The dog is insured and food will be bought by Mrs Gates. | $\bullet$ | L | MG |
| Dog phobia <br> - Pupils/ visitors Distress caused through close proximity to dog | M | - Advise visitors and remove if necessary. <br> - Notice signs in school entrance advising of dog presence and noted on school website. <br> - Staff to supervise dog at all times and be sensitive to all children's reactions. <br> - Parental consent form to be gained for close contact and training. Parents to offered | - Parental consent to be gained for all children <br> - Liaise with Next Steps wellbeing service to support children who are anxious | L | JG/MW |


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| Hazards / issue | Risk rating H/M/L <br> (before) | Controls already in place | Further Action required | Risk Rating H/M/L (after) | By Whom \& When |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | programme of support for child to help overcome aversion |  |  |  |
| Dog pulling on lead Pupils/ staff Someone being pulled over. | M | - Dog will wear harness when working. If students are to hold lead, a training lead will be added to harness to support this. | - Adult to supervise children walking the dog at all times | L | Staff |
| Dog following basic instructions: <br> Sit, fetch, come etc Pupils/ <br> Staff/ Dog <br> Dog following wrong command. | M | - Dog has learned basic commands "Sit", "Wait", "Gently", "Stop". These are supported by hand signals. | - Rewards to be given for the dog following the correct commands | L | Staff |
| Dog mouthing Pupils/ Staff/ Dog Dog mouthing when taking a treat. | L | - Staff and children have been educated on "mouthing" as appropriate language |  | L | Staff |
| Dog's reactions to children behaviour. <br> Banging doors, pulling hair Dog/ Pupils/ Staff | M | - Dog becoming scared and anxious. <br> - Educating children how to behave when dog is on school site. <br> - If this happens the dog will be removed to its "safe" area and only reintroduced to education zone when trust has been reestablished. | - Safe zone in place for the dog to be removed to in a crate in the room adjoining the classroom | L | MG |
| Fire Alarm Dog being left in the building. <br> Dog has practiced fire alarm procedure to become recognise alarm sound. | L | - Key member of staff will be responsible for removing dog from the building in each area. <br> - Dog will be signed in as a member of staff so Fire Marshalls know when he is on site. |  | L | MG |


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