

## Risk Assessment

**SERVICE AREA:** School Dog (Fred)  
**NAME OF ASSESSOR(S):** K Sheehan  
**FREQUENCY/DURATION:** Daily

**SECTION/LOCATION:** SBM Office and around school  
**DATE OF ASSESSMENT:** 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022      **Job Type/Work Activity:** General

What are the Hazards?	Who might be harmed and how? (Who is at special risk?)	What are you already doing? (Current control measures, including those for people at special risk)	Further Control Measures	Action by whom & when	Done	Risk
Fred getting over excited when interacting with children	Pupils/staff knocked over, scratched or bitten by Fred	<p>Fred is always in the care of a responsible adult and will not be allowed to freely roam the school premises unsupervised. Pupils are not left unsupervised with Fred.</p> <p>During the school day Fred will always be on a lead when moving through the school or when he is out of SBM offices, except when he is undergoing structured training or is supervised in an enclosed area such as the office area / UKS2. He may be off his lead in classes if children are comfortable and an adult is supervising.</p> <p>Fred is trained not to jump up or bite the children.</p> <p>Pupils are taught how to read dog behaviour and the impact of their actions. Pupils are taught what to do to prevent Dog from chasing them (i.e. stand still with arms by their side)</p> <p>Fred attends the vets/groomers regularly to make sure his claws are kept short and is walked on concrete to keep them trimmed.</p> <p>KS will attend formal training with Fred.</p> <p>All staff will be introduced to Fred and the expectations ( do's and don'ts) of having a school dog.</p>	KS/SLT understand the importance of ensuring that Dog has regular 'non-contact' time where he can rest in order to avoid over stimulation.			Low
Keeping safe when walking Fred	Pupil/staff knocked over, Fred coming to harm.	<p>Fred will always be walked on a lead. A responsible adult will always be supervising any pupil who holds the lead. The adult will pick up anydog poo, leave the area hygienic and wash their hands.</p> <p>Pupils are given a choice if they would like to stroke Fred or give him a treat and are shown how to do this safely with a flat hand. Pupils wash hands afterwards.</p>				Low

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Fred being a trip hazard	Pupils/Staff/Visitors Slips and trips	All pupils and staff are vigilant to look where they are walking to avoid tripping over Fred. Fred to be on a short lead whilst being walked around the school. If Fred is resting in a shared area/classroom he is on his lead which is safely attached under a table leg with passers-by informed. Stairgate is used where appropriate in office areas. Staff have been told not to climb over the stairgate. The stairgate must be opened for staff to walk through safely.				Low
Fred gets loose from offices or from his lead	Pupils/staff scratched or bitten by Fred Fred coming to harm	Stairgate to be used on any office doors when Fred is in the room off his lead or Fred to remain on his lead and secured. If someone requests not to have contact with Fred he will be removed from the room if required and will remain with a member of staff. Fred has enough free space for him to be happy and safe during the schoolday. Children are taught not to tease or disturb him. If Fred did get loose the responsible adult would ensure he was put back in the designated room quickly and safely. Due to most doors in the school being closed Fred would not be able to move far. Five members of staff are to be called upon in the event of Fred getting loose or needing attention: KS, LA, AB, JP, SC				Low
Dog hair causing allergies	Pupils/ staff/ visitors having an allergic reaction	Fred is a Cavapoochon, a non-molting breed to reduce the chance of an allergic reaction. Parents asked to inform the school of any known allergies. A list of pupils who are nervous around Dogs or have known allergies to dog hair is kept by Headteacher, teachers and office staff. Any pupils who interact with Fred will practice good hygiene and wash their hands afterwards.				Low

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Pupils getting germs from Dog	Pupils/staff contracting diseases that can be carried by dogs	Should Fred defecate on the school site a member of staff clears this up immediately and it is disposed of in a safe manner. Staff sanitise area and wash hands after. Poo bags are carried by staff member walking Dog. All immunisations are kept up-to-date and a register of this is kept by KS. Flea treatment and worming treatment is carried out at appropriate intervals.. Records of this are kept. Fred does not attend school if sick. Fred does not enter a food preparation/ kitchen area or either halls when they are used as a dining hall during the lunch period.				Low
Financial cost of Dog upkeep	School unable to afford ongoing cost of Dog insurance premiums	Insurance cover premiums including vet cover is financed by school. Any costs additional to the premiums are paid by KS. KS financially responsible for all other care and day-to-day costs. Fred is the responsibility of KS outside of school hours. Any initial training costs are paid by KS. As Fred gets older we aim for him to be used for 'therapy' work within the school. The school may accommodate costs towards training and assessment of Fred to meet these criteria if and when it is felt that Fred is old enough to partake in this.				Low
Claim is made against school re: behaviour of Dog	School not adequately covered financially	School insures Fred. Full insurance to be at school. Certificate kept in school office and renewed annually.				Low
Fire	Dog at risk of not being evacuated	Dog is always with a responsible member of staff and will evacuate the building with the staff. We have signs up in school to say a Dog is in the building so all visitors are aware.				Low

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Noise/Barking	Pupils getting distressed e.g. Autistic Pupils Dog getting distressed	Cavapoochon are bred to be sociable dogs and are often used as therapy dogs as they are known to be good with children. Fred will be introduced to the pupils from an early age and will be acclimatised to a noisy environment, therefore reducing the chance of him barking or getting distressed himself.				Low
Dog Phobia	Distress to pupils/staff/visitors by close proximity to Dog	Parents inform the school if their child is scared to be in close contact with Fred. Parents offered a programme of support for their child to help overcome aversion. List of pupils who are nervous around dogs is kept by Headteacher, teachers and office staff. Visitors advised that a dog is on site and Fred is removed from the area of work if required. Notice in school entrance and on web site.				Low

Control Measures Acceptable Yes

Revision date: June 2023

SIGNED OFF BY: K J Sheehan

DATE: 01/09/2022