

Risk Assessment

My Canine Companion (MCC) Dogs in School



Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
Bites and scratches	Staff, pupils and handlers	low	- Dogs will be under effective control at all times. - Dogs must have a good temperament and be used to being around children. - Dogs must be well trained not to bite, scratch or jump up. - Handler will remain with dog at all times (Primary School, Units and Special Schools) - Children are taught how to approach and interact with the dog. - Training will be provided by MCC to all staff in relation to dog behaviour.	Handler in charge at the time.
Poor hygiene and health risks	Staff, pupils and handlers	low	- All dogs that visit are vaccinated, wormed, and treated for fleas - All staff and pupils are required to wash their hands after contact with dogs - Handlers take dog off site to toilet and safely dispose of any waste. A Dog waste bin is accessible. - Dogs will be well groomed at all times and kept in good condition. - Dogs will be fed food recommended by MCC only and	Handler in charge at the time.

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			fed treats only as advised by the handler. If a dog is unwell, they should be left at home. Interaction with a dog who is unwell is not allowed. A dog who feels unwell may act out of character.	
Allergies	Staff and pupils	low	- Dog breeds are hypoallergenic and low moulting. - If a parent objects to their child interacting with the dog, they should inform the school by a written document. - Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with allergies	Handler in charge at the time.
Phobias	Staff and pupils	low	- We tell parents and children about the dog in advance - Contact with dogs is optional - Work can be done with the student to help overcome this phobia.	Handler in charge at the time.
Activities and games involving the dog	Staff, pupils, dogs and handlers	low	- Main handler remains with dogs at all times - Handler speaks to school staff in advance and ensure the area and activity is safe - We check with the handler and set a limit for the number of children who can interact with a dog at once. This is set by the handler. - School staff remove children who misbehave or upset dogs. - We set a time limit on activities as recommended by handlers, so dogs do not get tired.	Handler in charge at the time.

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
Children misbehaving	Pupils, dogs and handlers	low	- Children are told in advance what to expect and how to behave. - School staff are present at all times (Primary School, Units and Special Schools). - The dog will be removed from a stressful situation or from children who misbehave.	Handler in charge at the time.
Damage caused to school materials, equipment and the school site	Dogs	low	- Dogs remain under effective control at all times. - Dogs are kept in secured rooms, with closed doors. - Handlers bring suitable toys if necessary - Areas/classrooms are cleared as much as possible before dogs visit.	Handler in charge at the time.
Off Site/School Grounds	Dogs, Public, handler and students		- Jackets on at all times. - Dogs is under effective control, lead is on at all times. - All off site activities are risk assessed by the dogs handler	Handler in charge at the time.