



## Dogs in school risk assessment

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dogs must have a good temperament and be used to being around children</li> <li>• Dogs must be well trained not to bite, scratch or jump up</li> <li>• Handler/ staff will remain with dog at all times</li> <li>• Children are taught how to approach and interact with the dog</li> </ul>	Ria Haley
Poor hygiene and health risks	Staff, pupils and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All dogs that visit are vaccinated, wormed, and treated for fleas</li> <li>• All staff and pupils are required to wash their hands after contact with dogs</li> <li>• Handlers take dog off site to toilet and safely dispose of any waste</li> <li>• Dogs are not taken anywhere near food preparation areas</li> </ul>	Ria Haley
Allergies	Staff and pupils	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog breeds are low moulting</li> <li>• We seek parental permission for children to interact with dogs</li> <li>• Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with allergies</li> </ul>	Ria Haley

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
Phobias	Staff and pupils	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We tell parents and children about the dog in advance</li> <li>• Contact with dogs is optional</li> <li>• Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with a phobia</li> </ul>	
Activities and games involving the dog	Staff, pupils, dogs and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handler remains with dogs at all times</li> <li>• Handler speaks to school staff in advance and ensure the area and activity is safe</li> <li>• We check with the handler and set a limit for the number of children who can interact with a dog at once</li> <li>• School staff remove children who may upset dogs</li> <li>• We set a time limit on activities as recommended by handlers, so dogs do not get tired</li> </ul>	
Children's behaviour	Pupils, dogs and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children are told in advance what to expect and how to behave</li> <li>• School staff are present at all time during the visit</li> <li>• School staff are ready to remove children or upset dogs</li> </ul>	
Damage caused to school materials, equipment and the school site	Dogs	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dogs remain on a lead/ supervised at all times</li> <li>• Handlers bring suitable toys</li> </ul>	