



Wood Street Infant School & Worplesdon Primary School
Risk Assessment for Schools



Date of Risk Assessment: September 2026 (to be reviewed September 2027)

What is the Hazard	Who is at risk	Level of risk	What are you already doing	Does anything else need to be done to control the risk	Action taken by whom and when
Animal Phobias	Staff and Young people	Low	Every effort will be made for the dog to be kept away from those with phobias at all times. Although with parental and pupil permission we will encourage the child to have positive experiences with the dog to reduce anxiety. If there are any phobias that need addressing CAL runs a consultancy based phobia programme which the school will link in with.	No current additional measure needed	
Allergies	Staff and young people	Low	A list will be made of all young people and staff that have allergies and the Therapy dog will be kept a respectable distance from those people at all times. Parents have been asked to inform the schools of any known allergies prior to starting at the federation. A list of any children who should not interact with the dog will be generated through SIMs. The CAL dog will be groomed and bathed regularly to reduce the level of allergens and danger in accordance with CAL guidelines. Bertie has a coat that does not shed and this reduces risk of allergic reactions. Children will have the opportunity to interact with the dog as they wish and those with allergies will be able to opt out of interaction.	No current additional measure needed	

			Children have been taught to wash their hands after active participation with the dog.		
Diseases and pathogens COVID-19	Staff and young people	Low High	The dog will be up to date with all vaccinations and will receive regular veterinary check ups. Anti bacterial hand gel will be available after handling the dog. All young people are to sanitise their hands before and after their session. Handlers are to sanitise hands before changing over the dog to keep the lead clean. Should the dog defecate on the site a member of staff will clear this up immediately and dispose of it in a safe manner. The dog will toilet in an area of the school that our pupils don't have access to on a regular basis, if required the area will then be disinfected with an appropriate animal disinfectant.	No current additional measure needed	
Animal bites	Staff and young people	Low	ALL staff have been introduced to the dog and the expectations (do and don't) of having a school dog. The dog has undergone training and testing for suitability by Canine Assisted Learning and will receive regular assessments by Nic. The school dog will be with a handler who has completed the CAL Affiliate school dog training course at all times. Pupils have been, and continue to be, taught the impact of their actions. Education of this nature is continually given to children, and often to the whole school during assemblies, lesson time and PSHE lessons. Pupils will be taught what to do to prevent the dog from chasing them. (i.e. stand still, cross arms)	No current additional measure needed	

			Pupils coming into contact with the dog will be shown how to interact with the dog appropriately. Only when the handler deems the pupil suitably responsible will they be able to interact with the dog. The school dog will be on the lead at all times when with children. The only exception to this is during the dog's exercise time when the adult will supervise interaction between dog and pupils. No objects are to be removed from the dogs mouth by children e.g. balls, sticks, toys The school dog will never be left unattended with children.		
Areas not accessible to the dog	Kitchen staff	Low	The dog will not enter the school kitchen.	No current additional measure needed	
Violence to the dog	Young people staff and the CAL dog	Low	Handlers to be aware of any potential behaviours that may be displayed by the pupils towards the dog and be aware of the behaviour management plan for them. Behaviour expectations to be clearly identified to pupils with regards to the school dog. Any infringements on behaviour expectations will lead to the pupil being withdrawn from the activity. There will be a list of all pupils known to have a history of violence towards animals and they will not be able to take part in the activity. The school dog will be with the handler at all times and all interactions closely supervised. The Therapy dog must be immediately removed from any potentially	No current additional measure needed	

			violent situation and be taken to a safe location.		
Welfare of the school dog	School dog	Low	Water is to be accessible to the school dog at all times The school dog is to be on a healthy balanced diet Raw food diets are not permitted The school dog is to have regular rest and play breaks throughout the working day. 24 hours away from school is required following any sickness / diarrhoea The school dog is not to be in school if it has any open wounds or injuries A minimum of 24 hours away from school is required following any sedation, this will be reviewed on a 1:1 basis in consultation with the vet.	No current additional measure needed	
Claim is made against school re: behaviour of the dog.	School not adequately covered financially	Low	SBM ensures dog insurance is in place.	No current additional measure needed	