

Cadmore End Risk Assessment

Dogs in school

Date: March 2025 **Review** July 2025 or sooner if needed

Assessment carried out by: D Groom

HAZARD	WHO IS AFFECTED/AT RISK	RISK RATING (LOW, MEDIUM, HIGH)	ACTIONS/CONTROL MEASURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Bites, scratches or illness caused by the dog	Staff, pupils, handlers and visitors		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All dogs that visit the school site are up to date with their vaccinations, and treatment for worms and fleas • The dog will not have direct contact with children in EYFS or KS1 • Dogs are groomed (if necessary) before the visit • All staff and pupils are required to wash their hands after contact with the dog • Handlers clear up dog faeces promptly and dispose of this safely. Dogs are taken off site regularly for them to toilet. • Dogs are not taken anywhere near food preparation areas 	Headteacher and staff

HAZARD	WHO IS AFFECTED/AT RISK	RISK RATING (LOW, MEDIUM, HIGH)	ACTIONS/CONTROL MEASURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Allergies	Staff and pupils		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter sent to all parents/carers requesting information about any allergies • Staff should be trained to recognise signs of allergic reactions and protocols in place should a situation arise • Parental permission sought for children to interact with the dog • Any room used for the dog and pupils to interact should be well ventilated • Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with allergies 	Headteacher
Phobias	Staff and pupils		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter sent to parents/carers requesting information about any phobias towards dogs • Where possible, pupils are told about the visit in advance • Contact with the dog is optional • Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with a phobia 	Headteacher

HAZARD	WHO IS AFFECTED/AT RISK	RISK RATING (LOW, MEDIUM, HIGH)	ACTIONS/CONTROL MEASURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Activities and games involving the dog	Staff, pupils, dogs and handlers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler remains with the dog at all times • Handler speak to school staff in advance and make sure the area and activity is safe • Handler will set a limit for the number of pupils who can interact with a dog at one time • Time limit will be set for how long the dog will be involved in each session. It is advisable to keep this to no more than 30 minutes • Handler to clean up urine and faeces using a pet-safe disinfectant if the dog fowls within school grounds • School staff remove pupils who misbehave or upset the dog. The pupils in question will then be reminded about the code of conduct in relation to acceptable behaviour around the dog • Time limit set for activities as recommended by the handler, so the dog does not get tired • Any games played with the dog during sessions should be more cognitive based, such as scent games rather than high energy 	Headteacher

HAZARD	WHO IS AFFECTED/AT RISK	RISK RATING (LOW, MEDIUM, HIGH)	ACTIONS/CONTROL MEASURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Pupils misbehaving	Pupils, dogs and handlers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils and staff are required to complete a lesson on interacting safely with the dog. This should include understanding dog body language • Pupils are told in advance what to expect and how to behave • School staff are present at all times during the visit • School staff are ready to remove any pupils who misbehave or upset the dog • If the dog is showing signs of distress, then the dog should be removed immediately 	Headteacher and staff
Damage caused to school materials, equipment and the school site	The dog		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog to remain on a lead at all times when in a session or being moved around the school site • Dog kept in secured rooms, with closed doors, but well ventilated and not too hot or cold • All school bags/personal items are removed or out of reach before the dog enters • Handlers bring suitable toys if necessary • Areas/classrooms are cleared as much as possible before the dog visits 	Headteacher

HAZARD	WHO IS AFFECTED/AT RISK	RISK RATING (LOW, MEDIUM, HIGH)	ACTIONS/CONTROL MEASURES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Zoonosis			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean food and water bowls are supplied daily and separately from those used by people • Food and water bowls are not shared with other animals on site • No face-to-face contact • Any cuts/open wounds are covered • If the dog has any cuts/open wounds, they should not be brought into school • The dog should receive regular vet check-ups and preventative treatments as directed 	Headteacher