

The Cathedral School of St Peter and St John RC Primary

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"> • 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 • Children are taught how to approach and interact with the dog 	Head Teacher
Poor hygiene and health risks	Staff, pupils and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Dogs are not taken anywhere near food preparation areas 	Head Teacher
Allergies	Staff and pupils	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog breeds are low moulting • We seek parental permission for children to interact with dogs • Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with allergies 	Head Teacher

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"> • We tell parents and children about the dog in advance • Contact with dogs is optional • Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with a phobia 	Head Teacher
Activities and games involving the dog	Staff, pupils, dogs and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • 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 	Head Teacher
Children misbehaving	Pupils, dogs and handlers	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are told in advance what to expect and how to behave • School staff are present at all time during the visit • School staff are ready to remove children who misbehave or upset dogs 	Head Teacher
Damage caused to school materials, equipment and the school site	Dogs	low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	Head Teacher