

Risk Benefit Assessment & Risk Management Record – School Dog- Fifi



6/2/2020

Helen Bradley-Wyatt

To be read in conjunction with other related risk assessments & policies/procedures.

NB: It is accepted that this risk benefit assessment is applicable to everyone in school.

Name of persons compiling and responsible for this risk benefit assessment: Helen Bradley-Wyatt

School Dog- Benefits.

- Dogs teach children responsibility
- Dogs teach patience
- Dogs teach compassion
- Dogs teach children about socialisation
- Dogs are fun
- Dogs can support wellbeing
- Dogs can help build confidence and self esteem

Introduction

Fifi was bought as a puppy, born on February 14th 2012 and is a family pet. She belongs to Mrs Bradley-Wyatt. Fifi is a Yorkie Terrier mixed with a little Chihuahua. Fifi is a calm and friendly dog who has been socialised with children of all ages. Fifi regularly visits the vets and is up to date with all flea, worm and inoculations. She is deemed fit and healthy. While the school has been open to key worker children, Fifi has made some visits with the permission of parents. She has shown she has an excellent temperament and the children present have already made strong connections with the children. In a recent questionnaire (2.6.2020), all children attending said that they would like Fifi to visit and had clear purposeful reasons for this.

Risk Benefit Assessment & Risk Management Record – School Dog- Fifi

Hazard	Harm	Risk <i>High/ Med/ Low</i>	Control measures to reduce the risk	Revised Risk <i>High/ Med/ Low</i>
Bite	Wounds and possible infection	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dog has been trained not to bite Children will be given a clear code of interaction During first interactions, Fifi will remain on a lead and under the control of Mrs BW The dog has already been introduced to some children while school has been open to key worker children. 	Low
Jumping up/scratching	Injury due to a person being knocked over. Wounds from scratches	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dog is small and therefore less likely to knock children over The dog has been trained to not jump up using rewards Ensure children are supervised The dog will be under control when children enter the office. 	Low
Running loose	Damage to property Injury due to road vehicles Injury to child/adult	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check to ensure boundaries are secure Assess whether it is safe for dog to be let of the lead Monitor interaction when in school Provide treats for quick recall Ensure children understand they should not chase the dog to try and get her back. 	Low
Direct interaction with children/ staff	If dog not in the right frame of mind it might scratch or not want interaction	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HBW to assess dog's mood in the morning to ensure appropriate to bring dog in. Rest days will be given and regular walks/ breaks from children to ensure positive interactions. Treats and rewards given for all positive interactions Immediately stop interaction if child or dog behaves incorrectly Ensure children and adults follow agreed code of interaction 	Low
Incorrect interaction with the school dog	Future interactions could be affected and the dog's training impacted	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed codes will be developed for all to follow Rewards and treats given for correct behavior Reminders will be given of code when interacting if there are instances of children forgetting If serious or repeated, interaction will stop and the dog returned to the office 	Low

Risk Benefit Assessment & Risk Management Record – School Dog- Fifi

Use of rewards/ treats	Children / staff could be harmed if the dog is excited about a treat. Children could contract germs after handling treats/ coming into contact with dogs mouth/ tongue	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dog has been trained to follow a visual cue to show you have a treat. She has been trained to sit when this happens. Remind children they can ONLY given a treat if the dog is behaving correctly. Children will be reminded to wash their hands Treats will be stored away out of reach of children. No treats can be given without the supervision of adults. 	Low
Pupil/ staff knowledge of interaction with a dog	If staff/ children do not know how to interact correctly, this could result in harm to themselves of the dog	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be an agreed code of interaction with the dog which will be shared with staff and children. The code will be published as a reminder as well as verbal reminders given Should inappropriate interaction continue, then the interaction will be immediately stopped. 	Low
Worms/ fleas	If not treated, worms etc could be transferred to humans	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dog is treated monthly. The products used are ordered by prescription from the vet to ensure these are the most effective Seek veterinary advice if needed 	Low
Faeces	If children/ adults come into contact with faeces some germs could be transferred	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school dog will only be walked under supervision Poo bags will be used to pick up and dispose of the faeces Only adults will pick up the faeces A specific space will be allocated for the dog's toilet routines If a child finds any faeces on the field they will report it to an adult immediately Adults will wash hands immediately after removing any faeces. 	Low
Allergies	If a child is allergic to dogs they could become unwell	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dog is covered in hair which is hypoallergenic and will not affect asthmatics. The dog is regularly groomed and bathed If a child becomes unwell during interaction with the dog, the dog will be immediately removed. 	Low

Risk Benefit Assessment & Risk Management Record – School Dog- Fifi

Children's access to school dogs resources	A child could consume food/ treats and become unwell	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dogs resources will be stored in a safe place Resources such as food and treats will be out of reach of children No child will be able to access the dog's rest space without adult supervision 	Low
Contact with food preparation areas	If a dog enters food prep areas this is unhygienic	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dog will not be permitted in the hall or kitchen while food is prepared or consumed. The dog will never be allowed in the kitchen area 	Low
Cleaning hands after interacting with the school dog	If hands are not cleaned after interaction, germs could be transferred	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminders to children to wash hands immediately after interaction Regular flea and worm treatments given Regular grooming and baths given 	Low
Walking the dog on and off site	Children could be harmed if they are not focused Children might be harmed if they do not interact correctly when the dog is out for a walk	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure dog is always on a lead when off site walking Provide treats for dog's good behaviour If near other members of the community/ dogs Mrs BW to manage the lead Ensure children know and understand the code for walking the dog and that they feel confident to do so by starting with simple walks on site to assess skills and confidence. 	Low
Visits to classroom	If the dog visits a class and the children do not follow the correct procedure she may become excited or scared	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure codes of interaction are known and understood by the children and staff Ensure visits to classrooms are planned with a clear purpose. Control of the dog to be managed by a confident adult. 	Low
Being fed	Children may become ill if they consume food.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeding unlikely due to feeding times outside of school time If feeding does occur, this will be supervised by an adult. The food will be tipped into the bowl from a container without any contact with 	Low

Risk Benefit Assessment & Risk Management Record – School Dog- Fifi

			<p>skin. The placed on floor. Dog reminded to sit and wait before food given.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children reminded to wash hands immediately after any contact with food or bowls. 	
School events	If overwhelmed the dog may become scared	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable dog to access safe space away from others and offer reassurance. • Monitor dog's behaviour at this time 	Low
Other dogs (on and off site)	If the dog encounters another dog she may bark and try to defend owner/ property	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other dogs are allowed on the school site. • The dog will not be on morning duty where she is likely to meet other dogs at the gate 	Low
<p>Any further information which needs to be noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifi's wellbeing is paramount as well as the safety of children and staff. Her wellbeing will be carefully monitored and if it lowers, her interactions at school will stop. 				

Signed: H Bradley-Wyatt	Position: Headteacher and owner of the dog- Fifi	Date: 2.6.20
----------------------------	---	-----------------

This assessment is reviewed annually unless accident/incident occurs requiring immediate review.