

31st August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may be aware by now, our new CEO, Mrs Charlene Gethin, has a pug dog called Ralph.

Ralph has now spent a year as a school dog in both of Mrs Gethin's schools and, as such has proven himself to be well behaved, house trained and excellent with the children - he is good at listening!

Whilst Ralph will live with Mrs Gethin in her office at The Richard Crosse, he will enjoy time with children in school and, she is keen for children to be able to have experiences with him such as to bath or have a walk with him from time to time. Additionally, he can be supportive of mental health and wellbeing for both staff and children in school and even be a great reading dog too.

A full risk assessment has been completed and we have specialist insurance also which stipulates expectations regarding dogs in schools.

Children will be supervised at all times and expected to follow instructions from staff. Whilst every care is taken to prevent accidents, animals are unpredictable and injuries such as scratches or bites may occur despite careful choices and training. Please rest assured, this has not happened in Mrs Gethin's current schools, Ralph is incredibly placid but, it is an important message.

Allergies, asthma, immune problems, and/or other health concerns which may make animal contact inappropriate for your child. Please indicate with clear detail whether you have these allergies and, if you can or cannot work with the dog or indeed if you can be in an area of school where a dog visits.

Actions for you

Please click on the link below or alternatively copy and paste the link into your browser to complete the Google form stating whether you wish your child to walk, bath, read with and be supported emotionally by Ralph, if they have any specific allergies and any further expectations you have of us:

<https://forms.gle/yZGPChEqhKRbEQP68>

Thank you in advance and we cannot wait to welcome him, and Mrs Gethin in September.

Kind Regards,

TSSMAT

