

SCHOOL DOG RISK ASSESSMENT

School employees using this risk assessment must be aware of and refer to the CLEAPSS guidance mentioned in the 'existing control measures' section. This risk assessment should also be referred to in schemes of work, lesson plans, teacher planning notes, etc. relating to this subject.



PART A. ASSESSMENT DETAILS:

Area/task/activity: Keeping animals in school

Location of activity: Primary school classroom

Team/School name: Address & Contact details:	St Maria Goretti Catholic Primary School, Gamull Lane, Preston, PR26SJ	Name of Person(s) undertaking Assessment:	Andrea Bailey
		Signature(s):	
Line Manager/ Headteacher (Name/Title):	Amanda Rich	Date of Assessment:	16/10/2025
Signature:		Planned Review Date:	Spring 2026
How communicated to staff:	During staff meetings	Date communicated to staff:	

PART B. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL MEASURES:

List of significant hazards (something with the potential to cause harm)	Who might be harmed	Type of harm	Existing controls (actions already taken to control the risk - include procedure for the task/activity where these are specified)
All below	Pupils, teachers, adult helper	All below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff always refer to the CLEAPSS document GL211- An introduction to keeping and handling animals in school
All below continued	Pupils, teachers, adult helper	All below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animals which can transmit diseases to The school will follow guidance issued by the RSPCA on the 'Animal friendly schools' to ensure compliance with the Animal Welfare Act and best practice.
Poor hygiene	Pupils, teachers,	Infection. Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut and abrasions on the exposed skin of hands and arms are to be

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	adult helper		<p>covered before handling animals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils must always wash their hands as soon as possible after handling any animal (or coming into contact with the soil, bedding, water etc. in a 'safe space' crate) • Reception and KS1 pupils hand washing is to be supervised to ensure that it is done properly. • Paper towels for drying hands hygienically are provided. • Reception and KS1 pupils are to be closely supervised to ensure they do not put their fingers in their mouths before hands have been washed • School dog will not be allowed to wander unrestricted around the classroom • School dogs area will be cleaned and disinfected regularly • If the school dog wanders on floors or tables clean and disinfect them immediately • When the school dog requires fresh food, remove any uneaten surplus before it begins to decompose •
Diseases, parasites and allergies	Pupils, teachers, adult helper	Illness, allergic reaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guardians are asked to identify any pupils known to have allergic reactions to the school dog and these pupils are instructed and supervised to ensure they avoid further contact with the animals • Pupils and adults must always wash their hands as soon as possible after handling any animal • Pupils are instructed not to rub their eyes after handling animals until they have washed their hands and are to be closely supervised • Medical assistance will be sought where an allergic reaction does not

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			<p>subside once the animal and the afflicted person are kept apart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe and secure storage for animal food is required to prevent unauthorised and pest access
Animal behaviour	Pupils, teachers, adult helpers	Bites, scratches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils are warned for the hazards of some animals e.g. not tormenting the school dog Procedures are introduced and pupils taught the correct handling of animals Animals are closely supervised by and adult Pupils are closely supervised by an adult A first aid kit is available and all animal scratches and bites are carefully washer and a first aider contacted
Animal welfare	Pupils, teachers, adult helpers	Animal death Pupil upset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welfare conditions are upheld The school dog will have access to clean water each day The school dog will have regular health checks

NOTE: CLEAPSS have issued a number of guidance leaflets on keeping animals in school as well as bringing pets, etc. to school that schools may find useful in developing this risk assessment further.

- L56 – Housing and Keeping Animals

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This general risk assessment will apply to this area/task/activity in most schools providing the control measures described are in operation and there are no further local significant hazards. If it does not fully apply and further control measures are required, please complete the Action Plan at Part C. If it fully applies please sign below.

I certify that the risk assessment above fully applies to the area/task/activity under assessment in (Name of school)

Signed:

Name:

Risk Assessor:

PART C: ACTION PLAN Further action / controls required						
Hazard	Action required	Person(s) to undertake action?	Priority	Projected time scale	Notes / comments	Date completed