



## Stonehouse Park Federation

### School Therapy Dog Risk Assessment



The Risk Rating process is provided for guidance only. It is the risk assessors' evaluation of the risks that is important, and this may differ from the result indicated by the risk rating matrix. Even after taking the risk rating into consideration employers still have a duty to ensure that sufficient and adequate control measures are in place to ensure that any remaining risks are kept as low as is reasonably practicable.

What are the Hazards? (What can go wrong)	Who might be Harmed & How ?	Existing Control Measures (What are you already doing to manage the hazards/risks?)	Risk Rating with controls in place			Additional Controls Required (Where the existing controls are insufficient to reduce the risk to an acceptable level) Use the scoring table below to assist in planning actions.	Action By Who ?	Action By When ?	Additional Action Completed (Initials)
			Likelihood	Impact / Severity	Risk Rating Score				
Canine related diseases and parasites	Pupils/ staff Ill health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog to have necessary and current vaccinations before coming into school. Vaccinations and other medical treatment is the responsibility of the owner</li> <li>• Dog to have regular veterinary checks and is part of a paid Vet plan which includes 6 monthly check ups</li> <li>• Dog will be kept free of fleas, ticks</li> <li>• Dog to be bathed regularly</li> <li>• Dog lives with owner when not in school and only visits at the agreed days/times</li> </ul>	2	3	6	Ensure the dog has regular health check ups, worming and flea treatments.	LJ	Ongoing	
Dog excrement and urine	Ill-health, slips and falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog to be wormed on a regular basis</li> <li>• Any excrement or urine will be cleaned up immediately and thoroughly disposed of responsibly and hygienically by the owner or handler at the time of the incident.</li> <li>• The member of staff with the dog to carry 'poo bags' to deal with any incident.</li> </ul>	2	3	6				
Hygiene/ Infection	Ill-health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate provision for hand-washing</li> <li>• Following contact with the dog, children will be advised not to touch any part of their face with their hands before hands are thoroughly washed or sanitised</li> <li>• Children will be reminded to wash their hands after spending time with the dog</li> <li>• All wounds on exposed skin are suitably covered.</li> </ul>	2	3	6				

Bites, cuts and scratches	Ill-health	<p>There will be no unsupervised contact with children.</p> <p>Dog closely supervised, kept under control and on a lead at all times</p> <p>Indy has been assessed by 'Pets As Therapy' as suitable for working in schools.</p> <p>The owner will have hold of the lead at all times. An additional lead can be attached so that children may 'help' to walk Indy for a short time.</p> <p>Pupils and staff will be made aware of the procedures of meeting and handling the dog:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always remain calm around the dog</li> <li>• Don't make sudden movements</li> <li>• Don't stare into a dog's eyes as this could be interpreted as a threat</li> <li>• Don't put your face near the dog</li> <li>• Always approach the dog standing up</li> <li>• Do not disturb a dog that is sleeping or eating</li> <li>• Don't eat close to the dog and never feed the dog your food or other food/treats without permission</li> </ul> <p>First aid kit held in the school offices. The owner will ensure the dog is not abused or over petted to avoid any incidents. If the dog appears anxious or over-stimulated, it will be removed to a different environment, or the visiting session may be cut short</p> <p>All staff handling the dog to be made aware of body language and signs of anxiety and how to respond to this.</p>	2	3	6				
Allergic reaction to dog	Ill-health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All parents/carers and members of the school community will be made aware via the website and newsletter that there is be a dog on site.</li> <li>• Parents are asked about children's allergies as part of the admission process.</li> </ul>	2	3	6	<p>All allergy information will be collected and recorded in SIMS.</p> <p>A notice will be displayed on the HTs office when the dog is in school.</p>	<p>SB &amp; SR</p> <p>LJ</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents/carers of children chosen to regularly work with the dog will be contacted individually</li> <li>The dog will have a blanket/bed in the Headteacher's office</li> <li>Areas where dog visits will be kept well ventilated</li> <li>First aid kit held in the main offices</li> <li>Pupils known to be allergic to dogs will not be allowed access to the dog</li> <li>Those thought to be highly allergic to dogs will have a statement included in their care plan/class teachers and school office to be made aware of this information</li> <li>Visitors to the school will be informed on arrival that there is a dog on the premises</li> <li>A notice will be displayed on the Headteacher's door when the dog is in school.</li> </ul>							
Noise, barking	Anxiety	<p>Dog chosen is sociable and will not be left with children unsupervised at any time</p> <p>If problems occur, dog will be removed from the situation/school by the owner</p>	2	3	6	Any issues to be reported immediately to SLT.	All	Ongoing	
Fire drill and evacuation	Dog left in the building in an emergency	The owner will be responsible for safely leading the dog from the building to a place of safety	2	3	6				
Covid-19	Transmission of disease	<p>During an outbreak of Covid19 the dog will work with children from one part of the federation only to avoid transmission to other groups.</p> <p>Children will be asked to wash their hands before and after handling the dog.</p>	2	3	6				

## Scoring Table

LEVEL OF RISK		OVERALL RATING		HOW THE RISK SHOULD BE TACKLED/MANAGED		
HIGH RISK		15-25		Immediate Management Action		
MEDIUM RISK		9-12		Plan for Change		
LOW RISK		1-8		Continue to Manage		
Likelihood (A)	5 Almost Certain	5	10	15	20	25
	4 Probable /Likely	4	8	12	16	20
	3 Possible	3	6	9	12	15
	2 Unlikely	2	4	6	8	10
	1 Very Unlikely / Rare	1	2	3	4	5
		1 Insignificant / Negligible	2 Minor	3 Moderate	4 Major	5 Critical / Catastrophic
<b>Impact (B)</b>						

## Risk Score

To calculate the Risk Score in the Risk Assessment Register above, simply multiply the Impact by the Likelihood to identify the level of risk as per the table above.

## Risk Scoring Guide

Consider the potential harm or injury that could result from the identified hazard if an accident or incident were to occur, based on the table below.

Impact Criteria (B)	IMPACT	SCORE	HEALTH & SAFETY EFFECT
	Critical/Catastrophic	5	Multiple deaths of employees, service users, members of the public, etc.
	Major	4	Death of an employee, service user, member of the public, etc.
	Moderate	3	Serious injury (acute, chronic or life-changing) to employee, service user or member of the public requiring medical intervention.
	Minor	2	Minor injury such as a bump or bruise that may require First Aid treatment and the person returns to work.
	Insignificant / Negligible	1	A day to day issue/problem but negligible harm would result.

Now consider the likelihood of that harm or injury being realised based on the expected frequencies in the table below.

Likelihood Criteria (A)	LIKELIHOOD	SCORE	EXPECTED FREQUENCY
	Almost Certain	5	Reasonable to expect that the event <b>WILL</b> undoubtedly happen/recur, possibly frequently and is probable in the current year
	Probable / Likely	4	Event is <b>MORE THAN LIKELY</b> to occur, will probably happen/recur, but is not a persisting issue. Will possibly happen in the current year and be likely in the longer term
	Possible	3	<b>LITTLE LIKELIHOOD</b> of event occurring. Not likely in the current year, but reasonably likely in the medium/long term.
	Unlikely	2	Event <b>NOT EXPECTED</b> . Do not expect it to happen/recur. Extremely unlikely to happen in the current year, but possible in the longer term.
	Very Unlikely /Rare	1	<b>EXCEPTIONAL</b> event. This will probably never happen/recur. A barely feasible event.