



General Details

Assessor	Nicola Drake
Assessment Date	03/02/2026
Assigned Reviewer	Nicola Drake
Next Review Date	03/02/2027
Operation Assessed	Dogs on Cornwall Council School Premises

Associated with specific area

-  Education
-  Maintained Schools
-  St Erme with Trispen Community Primary School

Description of work area and/or activity assessed

Adults bringing dogs into school to work alongside pupils and staff as a therapy dog.

Reason for Risk Assessment

As part of the work on our Pupil Premium Strategy, there are a number of children who would benefit from seeing a dog in school. A few members of staff have a dog and on occasions will bring them into school for the day.

Additional Comments

This risk assessment was written with another class teacher who owns a dog and sometimes bring her into school.

Overall Current Risk

Medium



Persons Affected

-  Children / Students
-  Cleaner
-  Contractors
-  Employees
-  Office Staff
-  Trainees / Young Persons
-  Visitors
-  Volunteers

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Welfare  Hazards (such as sharp edges, electrical cables, etc) accessible to the animal(s) in its enclosure	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
Dogs trained well and do not access hazardous objects when at home. Dogs supervised all the time and the classroom remains tidy and clutter free. Any hazards identified will be removed by the adult.		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	No Remedial Actions Entered If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Welfare  Failure to wash hands etc. after contact with animals	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
Children are reminded to wash their hands when they have been handling the dog. This is explained to the children every time the dog comes into school. There will be planned opportunities for the children to wash their hands, supervised by an adult.		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	No Remedial Actions Entered If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Housekeeping  Lack of cleaning of animal enclosures and anywhere that the dog has visited.	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
The dogs are only kept in their own dog beds within the classroom and not in an enclosure. The children know not to approach this without permission. It is explained to the children that when the dog is in its bed, the children should leave it alone. At the end of the school day, the dog's bed is taken home with all toys, blankets and bedding. The classroom is then cleaned at the end of the day and hoovered. All non carpeted areas are mopped with appropriate cleaning products.		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	No Remedial Actions Entered If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Training / Competence Lack of competent supervision	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
<p>The children and the dogs will be supervised at all times. There will not be an opportunity for the dog to be left on its own at all. An adult will be with the dog at all times. This will include times when the children are stroking the dog, to avoid too many children at one time, how gentle the children are being and so on.</p> <p>The children will not be feeding the dog at all; all treats, food and water will be given to the dog by the adult.</p>		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	<p>No Remedial Actions Entered</p> <p>If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.</p>

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Animal Escape of animal(s)	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
<p>All external doors are closed and locked, in order to keep children safe, as per our safeguarding policy. When doors are opened, there are always adults at the door which will minimise the dog escaping. The dog will have its lead on at all times and will be tied to the desk at the front of the room, so that it cannot walk freely around the classroom or get out of the door. Children know to leave the doors closed and to not wedge doors open. Should, after all these measures, the dog get out of the classroom it will not get far and will not be able to leave the school site as all external doors are closed and locked as well as the external gates being closed and locked at all times.</p>		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	<p>No Remedial Actions Entered</p> <p>If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.</p>

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Biological Contact with animal faeces or urine	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
<p>Dog will be exercised at playtimes and lunchtimes when the children are all outside by their owner. Dog fully toilet trained and will only go to the toilet outside.</p> <p>Owner of dog to pick up after the dog, not the children.</p> <p>If the dog goes to the toilet inside, the adult is to clean up after the dog. All disinfectant products are locked away and will be used from the cupboard. All surfaces will be thoroughly cleaned and anyone in contact with the dog or involved with any cleaning will wash their hands thoroughly.</p>		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	<p>No Remedial Actions Entered</p> <p>If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.</p>

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Animal Aggression caused by fear or panic	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
<p>Children told not to frighten or alarm the dog by approaching the dog at unplanned times. Explained not to make any sudden movements towards the dog.</p> <p>Children also told not to crowd the dog, as this might frighten the dog.</p> <p>The dog will be supervised at all times.</p>		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	<p>No Remedial Actions Entered</p> <p>If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.</p>

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Animal Biting, scratching or barging	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
<p>The dogs are very friendly and trained and have never bitten before. They are used to children.</p> <p>Adults will ensure that the stay with the dog at all times.</p> <p>Children told not to approach the dog without the owner present and not to get too close to the dog's face unexpectedly.</p>		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	<p>No Remedial Actions Entered</p> <p>If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.</p>

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Allergy No space available for a dog free space.	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
<p>There are going to be dog free spaces around school. These will be the main school hall, Eglos classroom and Truthan classroom.</p> <p>The dog will also not be visiting other classrooms; the children that require therapy and work with the dog will go to the TIS room to the dog.</p> <p>The dog will predominantly in the TIS room and Allen classroom.</p>		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	<p>No Remedial Actions Entered</p> <p>If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.</p>

Current Rating	Hazard Information	Task Status
Medium 	Allergy A child in the classroom that the dog is based in has an allergy.	
Measures Currently in place to prevent risk of injury		
<p>The child will not interact directly with the dog and all preventative measures of washing hands and cleaning surfaces will be applied.</p>		

Potential Rating	Additional Controls Required
Medium 	<p>No Remedial Actions Entered</p> <p>If there are any reasonably practicable actions which can be taken to reduce the risk associated with this hazard please use the form above to enter them.</p>