



13 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are planning on adding a new member to the team in Engage, within our Inclusion facility. Mrs Robinson will be bringing her dog, Chester, into work on Tuesday mornings. Chester is a black and tan Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, born on 18 March and is registered at Watkins and Tasker vet in Portishead.

Through interaction with animals such as dogs, children can benefit educationally and emotionally, increase their understanding of responsibility and develop empathy and nurturing skills. In addition to these benefits, children take great enjoyment from interactions with dogs.

It may be useful for you to read through some of the other items about the arrangements around having Chester on the school site on Tuesday mornings.

- The dog will be the responsibility of Mrs Robinson and will be looked after in Engage/Inclusion on Tuesday mornings.
- Only the school dog is allowed on the premises. All other dogs must not come on site unless they are a known therapy or assistance dog and the Headteacher has been informed beforehand.
- The dog has been trained and has had a number of years experience with children and is very sociable and friendly.
- A risk assessment is in place which will be reviewed annually.
- Staff, visitors and children known to have allergic reactions to dogs have been notified and will avoid the area on a Tuesday morning.
- All visitors on a Tuesday morning will be informed on arrival that there is a dog in school.
- If the dog is ill he will not be allowed into school.
- The dog will be kept on a lead when moving between classrooms or on a walk and will be under the full control and supervision of an adult.
- Pupils will never be left alone with the dog and there will always be appropriate adult supervision at all times.
- Pupils will be educated and reminded of what is appropriate behaviour around the dog.
- Mrs Robinson will maintain records and evidence of the work and impact of the school dog.
- The dog will be included in the fire evacuation procedure under the supervision of Mrs Robinson.
- If someone reports having an issue with the school dog, this information must be passed to the Deputy Headteacher.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Flora Slater

Mrs Flora Slater
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