

College Dog Risk Assessment

Salisbury 6th Form College

Date of last review	September 2025
Date of next review	September 2026
Review period	Annual
Owner	Business Manager

Risk Assessment

This risk assessment identifies the hazards associated with having a college dog on the premises and sets out the control measures required to mitigate those risks to an acceptable level.

Hazard	Risk	Individuals at risk	Likelihood	Risk rating	Control measures	Additional notes / control measures	Residual risk
Canine-related diseases and parasites	Ill health	Students, Staff	Low	Low	Dog to have necessary and current vaccinations and worming medication before coming into college. Vaccinations and other medical treatment are the responsibility of the owner.	Owner documentation	Low
Dog excrement and urine	Ill health, slips and falls	Students, Staff, Visitors	Med	Med	Dog to be wormed on a regular basis. Any excrement or urine will be cleaned up immediately and thoroughly disposed of responsibly and hygienically by the owner or adult with responsibility at the time of the incident. The immediate area will be sprayed with a preparatory disinfectant spray. Hand-washing facilities are close to where the dog will be located.	Owner and carer to carry equipment.	Low
Hygiene / infection	Ill health	Students, Staff, Visitors	Med	Med	Adequate provision for hand-washing available. Following contact with the dog, young people will be advised not to touch any part of their face with their hands before hands are thoroughly washed. Antibacterial gel is available throughout the building. All wounds on exposed skin should be suitably covered.		Low
Jumping up, bites, cuts and scratches	Ill health	Students, Staff, Visitors	Med	Med	There will be no unsupervised contact with young people. Dog will be closely supervised and kept under control. Students and staff will be made aware of the procedures for meeting		Med

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					and handling the dog: always remain calm; no sudden movements; do not stare into a dog's eyes; do not put your face near a dog; always approach the dog standing up; do not disturb a dog that is sleeping or eating; do not eat close to the dog. First aid kit held in the office, medical room and Science prep. Supervising adults to ensure dogs are not abused or over-petted.		
Allergic reaction to dog	Ill health	Students, Staff, Visitors	Med	Med	Parents and students will be informed via emails, newsletters and the website that there will be a dog on site and the college's planned intentions. Parents and students will be asked to inform the college if the student has an allergy to dogs. Students known to be allergic to dogs will not be allowed access to the dog. Visitors to the college will be informed on arrival that there is a dog on the premises. All dog food will be kept with the owner and screened for any potential allergens.	All allergy information will be collected and entered in the College MIS. A notice will be displayed at the entrance.	Medium
Dogs' movement around the college	Anxiety, allergy risk, impact on learning	Students, Staff	Med	Med	Dog will stay in a designated area (DSL Office) with its owner and identified staff most of the time. Dog will only be allowed in designated areas.		Low
Noise / barking	Anxiety	Students with low coping skills	Low	Low	Dog chosen is sociable and will not be left with young people unsupervised. If problems occur, dog will be removed from the vicinity.	As dog grows the college will assess how she interacts with the students.	Low

Hazard	Risk	Individuals at risk	Likelihood	Risk rating	Control measures	Additional notes / control measures	Residual risk
Fire drill and evacuation	Dog left in the building in an emergency	Dog and others who may return for the animal	Low	Low	Individuals supervising the dog or young person in charge will be responsible for safely leading the dog and others in their charge from the building to a place of safety.	Training handler on procedure.	Low
Liability claim	Liability to college	Staff, Students and Visitors	Low	Low	College dog is covered under the Public Liability and Employers' Liability provided by the RPA. Precautions and procedures set out in the risk assessment and dog policy must be followed. Owner should have the relevant dog insurance in place.	Agreement with handler.	Low

Further Actions

The following further actions were identified at the time of assessment:

1. Distribution of procedures and risk assessment

Action completed: 31 January 2022. Risk assessment reviewed: 31 October 2023. Significant changes: No.

2. Orientation visits

Fern (college dog) will visit for short periods to get used to the environment, starting with a weekend orientation visit to the empty college. This will be built up over time to get the students and the dog used to interacting.

3. Review update

No changes. Risk assessment reviewed: 14 November 2024. Significant changes: No.