

## Health and Safety Risk Assessment



### Risk assessment for: Therapy dog on site

Identifying the risk	Risk Rating	Control measures	Person responsible
Hygiene concern	<b>Low</b>	Only registered Therapy Dogs Nationwide to be involved as they are immunised against DHP, and up to date with flea and worming treatments in accordance with Therapy Dogs Nationwide Policy. Dogs will be free from disease or injury and in good health. Child to use hand gel after touching dog. Volunteer to ensure dog has opportunity to relieve itself outside school premises.	TDN Volunteer Responsible adult Child
Allergies to dogs	<b>Low</b>	All pupils on the Paws & Read programme to have parental consent and confirmation in the form of written consent prior to the commencement of the sessions.	Responsible adult Child Parent
Pupils may have behavioural problems	<b>Medium</b>	Responsible adult will be familiar with the “Bark & Read” guidelines Dogs must be appropriately socialised and oriented into the school environment. Dogs will remain on lead and under full control of the volunteer at all times. Dogs will be the sole focus of the volunteer to the exclusion of everything else. The volunteer will be able to remove the dog from any situation they deem detrimental to the dog’s welfare.	Responsible adult TDN volunteer
Members of staff maybe inexperienced around dogs	<b>Low</b>	Member of school staff will lead reading sessions.  The Volunteer will control dog at all times. Responsible adult will be familiar with the “Bark & Read” guidelines.	Responsible adult <b>TDN volunteer</b>
Fear of injury	<b>Low</b>	Children can only participate with parental consent and with the child’s consent prior to commencement of each session. Dogs are temperament assessed regularly to determine suitability to participate in the scheme. Dogs to remain on lead, calm and under the full control of the volunteer all times. Dogs must be appropriately socialised and oriented into the school environment	TDN Volunteer Responsible adult Child
Dog bites / scratches	<b>Low</b>	Child to be supervised by the responsible adult at all times. Dog to remain calm, on lead and under full control of the volunteer at all times. Child will be taught how to interactive with dogs prior to sessions.	Responsible adult TDN volunteer