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Completed by: Dr C Ankers (Principal)

Reviewed by:

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Next review date: 09/12/26

Atlantic Academy and Bideford College School Dog Risk Assessment

Area of concern/hazard	Control measures in place	Risk to students, staff, visitors, the dog
Poor dog welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The dog has access to fresh, clean water at all times.• The dog has access to a cool and quiet place where it can be left undisturbed.• Pupils leave the dog alone when instructed by college staff.• The dog's welfare is considered as a priority when planning the activities that it will participate in.• No activity will take place that risks the dog's welfare.• Noise is kept to a minimum during the activities that the dog is participating in, e.g. if the dog is participating in an assembly there will be no clapping.• The Principal ensures that the dog has adequate and frequent toilet breaks and any waste is appropriately disposed of.• The dog is not over-stimulated, as this can lead to potentially dangerous behaviour.• The dog is not made to participate in potentially distressing activities.• The college complies with the Animal Welfare Act 2006.• The dog is familiar with the members of staff and pupils who are participating in the activity with the dog.• Flash photography is not used when the dog is present.• The dog is given opportunities to exercise and move around independently in a secure area• The Principal ensures that the dog is fit to participate in specific activities and is not brought into the school if it is unwell.• If the dog becomes unwell while at school, the dog's owner takes it home.	Low

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before any activity is carried out, the headteacher ensures everyone participating in the activity understands how to treat and behave around the dog, e.g. not using flash photography, not shouting or clapping and not running around. • Activities do not cause harm, discomfort or stress to the dog. 	
Dog distressed by evacuation and behaves inappropriately/tries to escape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least two adults are appointed to be responsible for the dog. • The dog is kept on a lead when it is not in its housing or in a secure location. • The person handling the dog ensures that all appropriate doors are closed when the dog is participating in an activity, e.g. in a classroom. • The person handling the dog during specified activities is responsible for the dog's safety during an invacuation, lockdown or evacuation. 	Medium
Disobedience and dangerous behaviour by the dog	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog and handler to attend puppy obedience classes and on-going training class (Haven Dog Centre, Barnstaple). • Dog kept on a lead at all time except in designated area (MSSC at Bideford College, Principal's office) • Dog supervised by staff at all times. • Pupils are not expected to handle the dog unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They feel safe and confident in doing so. ○ They have received training to handle the dog. • The dog's obedience is ensured as far as reasonably possible; however, staff, pupils, visitors and parents understand that animals can be unpredictable. • If the dog is not behaving appropriately during an activity, e.g. it is barking excessively or running away, the Principal removes the dog. 	Medium
Negative impact of the dog's health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dog's designated handler is in charge of feeding and caring for the dog while on the school premises. • The handler is responsible for permitting people to touch the dog. • The dog is fully inoculated and insured (Pet Plan). • The dog goes to the vet for an annual check-up. • On hot days, the handler ensures there are appropriate provisions in place to keep the dog cool and ensure the dog avoids too much activity during the hottest part of the day. 	Low
Health related issues linked to hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dog is suitably toilet trained. • The designated area for the dog to defecate is situated away from pupils and staff. • All faeces are immediately picked up by the handler, using a clinical waste bag and disposed of off site • The handler immediately washes their hands with sufficient soap and water after picking up faeces. • The handler takes the dog's bedding home weekly to wash it. 	Medium

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any pupils, staff and visitors who touch the dog are advised to wash their hands afterwards, and sufficient hand washing facilities are provided throughout the college. • Anyone with an exposed wound who touches the dog has the wound suitably covered. • If the dog is ill with an infection or a disease, it does not return to college until it has recovered. • Dog will not enter any kitchens or other area where food is prepared • Dog treated for worms, ticks and fleas as advised by vet • Staff and students cannot feed the dog 	
Injuries obtained from being around the dog	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dog is used to coming into close contact with people. • Pupils, staff and visitors around the dog are closely supervised by the handler. • Pupils, staff and visitors are advised not to put their face close to the dog. • The dog is prohibited from roaming freely around the school without the supervision of the handler. • Pupils, staff and visitors are only permitted to stroke the dog during allocated time slots. • The dog is provided with a place it can go to get away from people. • Dog's claws regularly trimmed. • Dog kept on a lead at all times outside of designate area • Dog supervised by staff at all times 	Medium
Dogs equipment creating a hazard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All dog equipment is stored in the Principal's office when not in use. • The dog's food and water bowls are kept out of the path of people to avoid any trips. • Any spillages from the dog's bowls are wiped up immediately. 	Low
Allergic reaction to the dog	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils and staff known to have allergies to animals have restricted access to the dog. • All pupils, staff and visitors are advised not to touch their face after touching the dog. • All pupils, staff and visitors are advised to wash their hands thoroughly after touching the dog. • Dog to be groomed/ bathed weekly. 	Medium
Phobias to the dog	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dog is prohibited from roaming freely around the school without the supervision of the handler. • During busy times the dog is kept in a safe and secure area away from any commotion. • Staff to supervise dog at all times and be sensitive to students' reactions. • Visitors to be advised of dog and removed if necessary. 	Medium

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will never be forced to engage with the dog. • The Principal informs parents that the dog will be present on the school's premises. • Consent from parents will be gained for pupils handling the dog. 	
Insurance claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Multi Academy Trust has public liability insurance which covers liability. • The dog is insured for vet fees by Pet Plan 	Low

Signed: Principal:



9.1.25

Date

The outcome of this assessment should be shared with the relevant staff.
A copy of the completed assessment to be kept on file and copied to the Health & Safety Co-ordinator.