



**The Laurels**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# The Laurels – September 2021

## T. Edwards

To be reviewed annually

It is accepted that interacting with animals is not appropriate for all children but for some it has the potential to provide many positive benefits. Any parent who does not want their child to interact with 'Zak' has been invited to write to the school and inform her of their wishes. There are no diseases associated with having Zak in school, as his vets will be responsible for vaccinations, including rabies and completing regular health checks and necessary treatment. Zak will also be insured. The risk assessment below is a working document and will be checked annually by key staff and the governing body.

### School dog (Zak) risk assessment:

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
Bites and scratches	Staff, pupils and handler	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Zak has a good temperament and is used to being around children</li><li>• Zak is 6-years-old, it is recommended that a school dog be at least 1 year old</li><li>• Zak has had puppy and dog training</li></ul>	Mr T Edwards Miss C Bull Mrs Collins

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handler(s) will remain with Zak at all times – CB, BC and TE will spend time with Zak and ensure that they are aware of Zak’s triggers.</li> <li>• TAs will use Zak for reading and behaviour rewards. They all have spent time with Zak and have read the risk assessment and policy.</li> <li>• CB or BC will take Zak around the school, on his lead, to visit children.</li> <li>• Zak will have noncontact time in CB’s office or in BC’s office if CB is unavailable</li> <li>• Children will be taught how to approach and interact with Zak– The Dog’s trust have come into school and will return annually to refresh this information.</li> <li>• First aider will communicate parents if bite/scratch happens to advise tetanus maybe needed.</li> </ul>	

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If Zak does get loose the office staff or designated handler will call for support from Mr. Edwards or Miss Bull, who will come and put the dog back on his lead and in the Head's office</li> </ul>	
<p>Poor hygiene and health risks</p>	<p>Staff, pupils and handlers</p>	<p>Low</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zak is up to date with vaccinations, and has monthly flea treatment and 6 monthly worm treatment. This will prevent infestation.</li> <li>Zak will attend the vets regularly to make sure he is in good health.</li> <li>Flea treatment would be used in school if required.</li> <li>Zak is groomed every 8 weeks.</li> <li>All staff and pupils are required to wash their hands after contact with Zak</li> <li>Handlers will clear up faeces promptly and dispose of this safely - pupils are told to stay away. In nearest dog bin.</li> <li>Zak will not be taken anywhere near food preparation areas</li> </ul>	<p>Mr T Edwards</p>

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bedding and other areas that Zak comes in contact will be disinfected if required.</li> <li>• Zak's food will be stored in Head's office – out of reach of children.</li> <li>• Zak's will not attend school if he is unwell and will not return until he has been to the vet. He will not have the 'Kennel Cough' vaccination, due to the live vaccination having small risk to some people.</li> </ul>	
Allergies	Staff and pupils	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents will be asked to inform the school of any known allergies prior to the introduction of Zak to the school.</li> <li>• A list of any children who should not interact with Zak will be kept on the school recording system.</li> <li>• Children will be taught to wash their hands after active contact with Zak.</li> </ul>	Office staff Parents

Hazard	Who is affected/at risk	Risk rating (low, medium or high)	Actions/control measures	Person responsible
Phobias	Staff and pupils	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents and children are informed about Zak and any phobias noted</li> <li>• Contact with Zak is optional</li> <li>• Alternative activities are provided in a separate room for those with a phobia.</li> </ul>	Mr T Edwards Miss C Bull Parents
Activities and games involving Zak	Staff, pupils, Zak and handlers	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handler(s) remain with Zak at all times.</li> <li>• Handler(s) speak to school staff in advance and ensure the area and activity is safe</li> <li>• We check with the handler(s) and set a limit for the number of children who can interact with a Zak at once</li> <li>• Handler(s) clean up faeces and he will be toileted off site.</li> <li>• School staff remove children who misbehave or upset Zak</li> <li>• We set a time limit on activities as recommended by handlers,</li> </ul>	Mr T Edwards Miss C Bull Staff Pupils

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			<p>so Zak does not get tired.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The dog's pen in the Head's office can be used to keep Zak safe and he will also roam free in the office. Staff will be alerted with signage and pupils only allowed in with supervision.</li> <li>• Zak will be limited to 20minute contact time and will rest in Head's office between these times. He will only be in school two days a week.</li> <li>• He will only have a maximum of 2hour contact time in one day.</li> <li>• Zak's safe area will be in Head's office and any concerns about Zak's welfare will result in him being returned to office.</li> </ul>	
Children misbehaving	Pupils, Zak and handlers	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children are told in advance what to expect and how to behave</li> <li>• School staff are present at all time during the session</li> <li>• School staff are ready to</li> </ul>	Mr T Edwards Miss C Bull Staff

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			<p>remove children who misbehave or upset Zak</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zak will not have contact with a child who is, agitated or upset</li> </ul>	
Damage caused to school materials, equipment and the school site	Zak	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zak remains on a lead at all times</li> <li>• Zak is kept in a secure room, with closed doors and will be taken off site to toilet.</li> <li>• Handlers bring suitable toys if necessary</li> <li>• Areas/classrooms are cleared as much as possible before Zak visits</li> </ul>	Mr T Edwards Miss C Bull Staff
Financial cost of the Zak's upkeep			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zak is the responsibility of Mr Edwards who is financially responsible for all his care and day to day costs.</li> <li>• Zak is the responsibility of Mr Edwards outside of school hours.</li> <li>• As Zak will be used for 'therapy' work within the school, the school will accommodate cost</li> </ul>	Mr T Edwards School

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			<p>of the insurance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zak has public liability insurance and specialist working dog insurance via Pets in Business.</li> </ul>	
<p>Claim is made against school re: behaviour of Zak.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Edwards, insures Zak. DMATs insurance company have been contacted and informed of us having a school dog – all claims to be directed to Zak’s public liability insurance.</li> <li>The certificates are is kept in school office and are renewed annually.</li> </ul>	<p>Mr T Edwards</p>