



Dogs on site at St Clare’s High School
Risk Assessment 2023-2024

Event	A dog being at school daily in an ongoing capacity	Date(s)(year)	Document completed by

Risk Description/ Hazard	Outcome	Current Control Measures	Risk Rating			Planned Control Measures
<i>Person being injured while walking the school dog by being pulled on via the leash</i>	Person falls or is pulled by the arm causing strain or damage to skin from the leash	Teaching people the correct method of holding the leash and the dog while walking the dog on leash’	Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe	Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain	Low Medium High Extreme	<i>School dogs are called to return to areas of restriction such as the classroom or office. Person to be assessed for injury and first aid to be administered where needed.</i>
<i>School dog can knock people over or scratch people when playing, responding to excitement or startling from person/s</i>	Person is injured as a result of being knocked into furniture or knocked over. Person is scratched through clothing or directly to skin and requires first aid	People can be educated about control measures for level of excitement and elements of surprise for dogs when working with or around the dog.	Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe	Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain	Low Medium High Extreme	<i>School dog is called to return to an area of restriction such as the classroom or office. Person to be assessed for injury and first aid to be administered where needed.</i>



<p><i>School dogs can scratch a person with teeth when playing tug of war or playing a game with a toy that can be retrieved from hand, air, or ground level.</i></p>	<p>Person is damaged to the skin where teeth make contact and require first aid.</p>	<p>People will be educated about appropriate ways to engage the dog in play. Using set commands and common sense to do this.</p>	<p>Insignificant <u>Minor</u> Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely <u>Possible</u> Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low <u>Medium</u> High Extreme</p>	<p><i>Person to be assessed for injury and first aid to be administered where needed.</i></p>
<p><i>School dogs can become aggravated by people through physically threatening behavior, being cornered or physically mistreated.</i></p>	<p>Dogs can snarl, bark, or snap/bite at the person requiring possible first aid.</p>	<p>People will be educated about giving the dog appropriate space and treating the dog with care and respect at all times.</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate <u>Major</u> Severe</p>	<p><u>Rare</u> Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low <u>Medium</u> High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School dogs are called to return to areas of restriction such as the classroom or office. Person to be assessed for injury and first aid to be administered where needed.</i></p>
<p><i>School dogs can be injured by physical mistreatment from a person.</i></p>	<p>Dog require medical treatment, extra training or time away from the workplace to recover</p>	<p>People will be educated about the wellbeing needs of animals.</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor <u>Moderate</u> Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely <u>Possible</u> Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low <u>Medium</u> High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School dogs are called to return to areas of restriction such as the classroom or office. Dog to be assessed for injury and first aid to be administered where needed.</i></p>



<p><i>Person is frightened by school dog rushing toward him/her in excitement, anticipation of playing, or defense of food when feeding.</i></p>	<p>Person requires space and time to recover from fright or mild shock.</p>	<p>People will be educated about giving dog appropriate space when feeding, and dog to be tethered when in open areas.</p>	<p><u>Insignificant</u> Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible <u>Likely</u> Almost certain</p>	<p>Low <u>Medium</u> High Extreme</p>	<p><i>Person to be assessed for injury and first aid to be administered where needed.</i></p>
<p><i>School dog injured by sharp objects or ill from ingesting chemicals in the garden area</i></p>	<p>Dog is wounded or becomes unwell and shows signs such as vomiting or diarrhea.</p>	<p>Vegetable garden area to be kept clear of sharp objects or hazardous materials such as fertilizers.</p>	<p>Insignificant <u>Minor</u> Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely <u>Possible</u> Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low <u>Medium</u> High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School dog to be assessed for injury and to see vet if deemed necessary. If not necessary, dog should be stationed to relax and rest in a quiet area.</i></p>
<p><i>School dog accesses public roads and moves throughout traffic.</i></p>	<p>Dog is frightened or injured.</p>	<p>All gates remain locked during school time, and school dog is kept in supervised areas outside of these times. Holes in fence to be repaired.</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor <u>Moderate</u> Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely <u>Possible</u> Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low <u>Medium</u> High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School dog to be assessed for injury and to see vet if deemed necessary. If not necessary, dog should be stationed to relax and rest in a quiet area.</i></p>



<p><i>Wellbeing dog may pull away, jump up, run off, be startled, react aggressively, obstruct walkways or trip staff or students</i></p>		<p>Staff and students briefed before the dog enters the school. Students are supervised.</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School dog approached from front on if engaging with the dog.</i></p> <p><i>School dog to sit or stand calmly if a new student first approaches the dog.</i></p> <p><i>Students to be given permission to walk the dog or engage with the dog before they do so.</i></p>
<p><i>Students may provoke school dog to react or engage to another student.</i></p>		<p>Dogs to be checked regularly by their carers to ensure they are in good health and their needs being met with balance.</p> <p>Staff and students instructed how to calmly approach the dog. Not from behind, or with sudden movements or escalating behaviour.</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>Students to be given permission to walk the dog or engage with the dog before they do so.</i></p>



<p>Startled school dog reacts in an unpredictable or sudden manner</p>		<p>Dog response plan communicated to all staff and students.</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School dog sleeping or resting bed located away from traffic areas. Students and staff do not intentionally disturb the dog while resting or sleeping.</i></p> <p><i>If the dog chooses to sleep or rest in the classroom or student activity area, students are not to deliberately wake or disturb the dog, engage in loud activities or make sudden movements that may startle the dog.</i></p>
<p><i>Students could get sick from contact with school dog.</i></p> <p><i>Hygiene issues -dirty hands, transfer of contaminants. licking.</i></p>		<p>General personal hygiene procedures in place eg handwashing.</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>Handwashing after contact with the dog.</i></p> <p><i>Designated areas for cleaning of dog waste equipment.</i></p> <p><i>Dog is regularly groomed</i></p>
<p>School dog could become sick.</p>		<p>Dog has annual veterinary appointment including vaccinations</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>Health of the dog is monitored and if the dog sick or tired does not attend school.</i></p>



<p><i>Outside dog or other animal enters the school and attacks the school dog.</i></p> <p><i>New visitors do not follow rules and protocols associated with engaging with and care of the school dog.</i></p>			<p>Insignificant Minor <u>Moderate</u> Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely <u>Possible</u> Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low <u>Medium</u> High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School community is made aware of the dog in school via social media and newsletters.</i></p> <p><i>School gates shut at all times.</i></p> <p><i>Signs on gates informing visitors: Wellbeing dog onsite. No other dogs allowed unless authorised.</i></p>
<p><i>School dog displays threatening, possessive or harmful behaviour towards other animals present at school.</i></p>		<p>Dog carers and handlers advise where and when other animals are in school. Dog is moved indoors if threatening towards wildlife</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School dog on lead if outdoors or taken near other animals.</i></p>
<p><i>School dog could bite someone trying to feed the dog.</i></p> <p><i>Dog could get sick from inappropriate food</i></p>			<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>Dog is not to be fed by anyone other than the carer or handler.</i></p> <p><i>Fresh water is always available for the school dog</i></p>



<p>School dog hygiene/ contaminated area. Dog urinates or defecates.</p>		<p>Solid bowel movements picked up. Accidents cleaned up immediately.</p>	<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>School dog is trained to urinate and defecate in a specific area away from students. Area monitored and cleaned.</i></p> <p><i>Clean up materials available for clean up.</i></p> <p><i>Responsible person to take the dog for regular toilet breaks.</i></p>
<p>Record keeping and insurance</p>			<p>Insignificant Minor Moderate Major Severe</p>	<p>Rare Unlikely Possible Likely Almost certain</p>	<p>Low Medium High Extreme</p>	<p><i>Attendance register maintained.</i></p> <p><i>Dog medicine records maintained and kept.</i></p> <p><i>Public Liability Insurance accommodates use of the school dog in school environment.</i></p> <p><i>“Animal Research Authority” lodge annually (NSW only)</i></p>

