

# Learning Support School Dog (Issey) Frequently Asked Questions



· Who is the legal owner of Issey and who pays for her costs?

Issey's legal owner is Mrs Wood who will care for her out of school hours in her home and will bear all the costs associated with having a pet dog including the purchase and training costs of the dog.

· Is the Dog from a reputable breeder?

Yes, many months have been spent researching a reputable breeder. The breeder has been inspected and approved by the Cockapoo Club of Great Britain (CCGB) is approved. Minimum health testing requirements have been adhered to, and the CCGB Code of Ethics has been abided by. Issey's mother is a pedigree show cocker, her father is a pedigree poodle.

· How will hygiene be ensured?

Pupils and staff will be asked to wash their hands or use wipes following direct contact with the dog. Issey will be able to exercise in an area of the School site where pupils are not allowed to access. Dog faeces will be removed immediately and disposed of appropriately. Issey, her bed and her toys will be washed regularly. Vaccinations will be kept up to date and the dog will be administered flea, tick and worm treatment on a frequent basis.

· Has a Risk Assessment been undertaken?

Yes. Having a dog in school has been carefully considered and advice has been sought from many sources, including other schools that successfully have a School Dog. There is also a School Dog Policy in place.

· Will the dog be a distraction?

Issey will be kept in the Learning Support Centre where, while she is a puppy, pupil contact will be kept to a minimum and only allowed under close supervision by a member of the support Centre. Pupils who have allergies or are dog phobic need not have any contact with Issey.

· Who is responsible for the training?

Mrs Wood will be the legal owner of Issey and as a result, will be responsible for her training. Appropriate professional training will be obtained; initially she will complete basic puppy training in combination with Paws-active dog training based in Devoran, and the charity, Dogs Helping Kids before working towards becoming a School Dog in Training. Once Issey has successfully completed all her assessments she will become certified by Dogs Helping Kids as a School Dog. This process takes approximately 3 years.

