



BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL - CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE  
AND FAMILIES

# Langley School

Trinity Road, Sutton Coldfield  
West Midlands, B75 6TJ  
[www.langley.bham.sch.uk](http://www.langley.bham.sch.uk)

Head Teacher:  
Toni McCarroll

Tel No: 0121 675 2929

e-mail: [enquiry@langley.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@langley.bham.sch.uk)

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 24

Dear Parents/Carers,

## School Dog

I am writing to let you know that Langley has decided to take on a school dog. This decision has been made following extensive research, discussion with other schools that have a School Dog and previous experience of introducing and managing a school dog in a Specialist School Setting. A full risk assessment has been completed.

Teddy is 4-year-old Cockapoo and belongs to me, Miss Oliver. I have researched and seen the many benefits of having a school dog.

- Dogs teach children about responsibility – by children having to remember to feed and give water to the dog it can give them a sense of importance and satisfaction that they may not get from other responsibilities.
- Dogs can help children to calm and to support self-regulation.
- Dogs teach children compassion – just like us dogs feel pain and emotion.
- Dogs teach children about socialisation – by the children learning how to interact with a dog they can better learn how to socialise with other children.
- Dogs can help children grow in confidence as they are able to instigate cause and effect play. Dogs teach children patience – they do not always do as they are told first time!
- Dogs are fun – they greet you with a wagging tail every day and put a smile on your face, even on a bad day.



Teddy is a member of the Dog's Trust which means he has public liability insurance. This means he will be able to come into school. Teddy regularly goes to the vet for yearly vaccinations, flea and worm treatments.

Teddy will be based in the offices which is separate from the classrooms and the children will only be able to interact with him under strict supervision.

When he is moving around the school, he will be on a lead and always with an adult. We hope he will be able to support children in school in areas such as reading, regulation, engagement, nurture, help to support improved attendance, and he will also be in the quiet areas on the playground at playtimes.

We appreciate that some children can be nervous of dogs. Teddy has worked with lots of these types of children in the past and he helps to develop their confidence and understanding of him so that they then enjoy that interaction and gain confidence in managing their fear.

I hope the children will gain a lot of enjoyment from having a school dog; there will be pictures on the website of the engagement with him.

This half term, it has been arranged for the Dog's Trust to come into school and give all the children an assembly and/or a workshop on how to 'Be Dog Smart.'

If you have any individual questions or queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to message myself or your child's class teacher.

**IMPORTANT:**

**If your child has a dog allergy, please fill in the form and send it back to school by the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

Yours sincerely,

Miss A. Oliver  
Deputy Headteacher.

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Letter stating allergy regarding School Dog - **If your child does not have an allergy, you do not need to fill in this form.**

**If your child does have an allergy, please complete this form and return by 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

Name of child/ren Class/es

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

My child has an allergy which means they must not come into contact with the dog, so I do not give permission for my child to come into direct contact with the dog.

Signed .....Parent/Carer

Name .....Date .....