


Mrs M Lewis – Executive Headteacher

Mrs K Law – Head of School

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Thursday 15th October



Chilton Lane

Ramsgate

Kent

CT11 0LQ

Tel: 01843 597695

Dear Parents and Carers,

I might have heard from your children that we have had a dog visiting us in school this week. These visits have been successful and we have made the decision to appoint the dog to our Chilton team with a view to her becoming a school emotional support dog.

She is still very little and is getting to know the school and adults so for the next few weeks, she will continue to work on learning about her surroundings. Children may be introduced to her briefly around the school offices but she will not have any extensive contact with children until she is ready.

I understand there may be some questions:

What are the benefits of a school dog?

- A calming effect on pupils;
- Improved behaviour and concentration, reduced stress and improved self-esteem;
- Encouraging expression, participation and confidence for all children;
- Fostering a sense of responsibility;
- Motivating pupils to think and to learn, as most children have a high level of natural interest in, enthusiasm for and enjoyment of animals;
- Encouraging respect and thereby improving pupils' relationships with each other, parents and teachers;
- Teaching children to nurture and respect life;
- Helping work undertaken with the most vulnerable children;
- Helping children build confidence in reading;
- Improving attendance;
- Further promote our well-being provision for pupils.

How has the school planned for this?

- A full risk assessment and policy has been written and will be available on the website
- All contact will be carefully planned and children will not be left unsupervised with the dog
- When not working, the dog will be based in one of the school offices

What about allergies?

- All areas of the school are vacuumed and surfaces are wiped down several times daily
- Movement around the school will be controlled

'One Childhood One Chance'

Chilton Primary School, Ramsgate Arts Primary School and Upton Junior School are operated by Viking Academy Trust which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 09449979. The Registered Office is at Chilton Primary School, Chilton Lane, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 0LQ. Viking Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



- Any child working with the dog will wash their hands

Let me introduce you.....



This is Pippa who is still a puppy. She loves people, is extremely friendly and knows how to be gentle. She will be undertaking a number of different training courses as she continues her career with us!

I know there will be lots of parents and carers who support the new addition to our school however, if there are any further questions please talk to a member of the Senior Leadership Team or contact me directly.

Any parent who does not wish their child to interact with the dog, is invited to write to me to inform me of your wishes

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Kate Law
Head of School

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