



24th January 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

School Dog

We are writing to inform you that tomorrow, we will be welcoming Luna, the School Dog. Luna is not a trained therapy dog yet, so will not be used in this capacity, but will be based in the Student Support rooms and mainly SS3. Luna who will be attending school periodically as a school dog and we will alert students as to when Luna is on site via notices in Tutor Time the previous day.

Luna is a black Labrador and is 22 months old. Luna has previously been a School Dog and so is used to being on site with lots of children and is owned by myself.

If your child has allergies to dogs, please could you notify us by contacting senadmin@buckinghamschool.org. As Luna will be based in SS3 or my office, there will be little chance that your child will come in to contact with her unless they seek her out at break or lunchtime, therefore, the chance of contact is minimal. If we are aware of the allergy following your notification to the above email, we will endeavour to make sure your child does not have any accidental exposure to Luna.

If your child has a phobia of dogs, again, as Luna is based in SS3 there is little chance of her making contact with your child. Should you wish for your child to work on their phobia of dogs, please email senadmin@buckinghamschool.org as this is something we could explore using gentle exposure to Luna.

A risk assessment has been completed and advice followed from the Dog's Trust on how to introduce a dog to a school. All students will be notified during Tutor Time and will be guided on how to approach Luna and interact with her. Luna also has full insurance for being a School Dog and is fully up to date with her vaccinations, flea and worming treatments.

As Luna has a sensitive stomach, please remind your children not to feed Luna anything other than authorised treats from myself, but also to be mindful of dropping rubbish, food or chewing gum, as she can pick these things up and consume them.

We hope Luna will be a welcome addition to The Buckingham School community and give students the chance to interact with a dog, learn about their care and also provide a cuddle if someone should need it.

If you have further questions regarding this initiative, please contact me using the email address above and I will be happy to answer your queries. Please can you also ensure you notify us of any allergies or phobias so that we can then plan for this going forward.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs P Lockhart

Director of SEND

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