

School Wellbeing Dog

We are very excited to introduce you all to the newest member of our Red Rose Primary School family - Hugo.



Hugo is a Black Labrador Retriever and was born on 12th March 2021 and is currently 10 weeks old. Hugo was born in Lancashire - the Red Rose County! He has been living with Mrs Brinton and her family since he was 8 weeks old. Hugo has settled really well into his new home and is a very loving, gentle boy who likes to sleep a lot and play with his toys. He enjoys being stroked and cuddled. Hugo is currently undergoing basic training and will hopefully begin his specialist training with 'Pets as Therapy' when he is 9 months old.

A growing number of schools now have a school dog and are seeing many benefits. Research has shown that having a wellbeing dog in school can:

- Improve academic achievement
- Increase Literacy skills
- Calm behaviours
- Increase social skills and self-esteem
- Increase confidence
- Teach responsibility and respect to all life
- Help improve school attendance
- Help to motivate children who are often less focused

After half term, Hugo will begin to visit school so he can become used to his new working environment and get to know his new Red Rose family.

During the school day, Hugo will remain in Mrs Brinton's office or the school office, where he will have his own safe space. He will not be allowed to walk around the school building unless under adult supervision on a lead.

We are very aware that some adults and children are less comfortable around dogs or may have allergies. For this reason, we would like all parents to complete the attached form so we can ensure we are respectful of all needs and wishes.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-AiFhWi9fXINET-9-QhkBr_WcU9xfAoA6Dqjg-j9AXeYggg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Please read our School Dog Policy to see our reasons for having a therapy dog as well as frequently asked questions:

<https://www.redroseprimaryschool.com/about-us/school-policies/>

If you have any further questions which you would like to discuss please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Brinton.

We cannot wait for Hugo to become an integral part of our school!

Kind regards

Mrs Brinton