



NELSON INFANT SCHOOL  
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*Headteacher: Ms Victoria McConnell*

Dear families,

I am writing to let you know that we soon hope to add a new member to our school community. As of February 22nd, we are hoping to introduce Frankie the dog to our children, staff and families.

Frankie is a 4 month old cross-breed – part sausage dog/bulldog/staff. He is super-friendly, very used to children (lives with mine) and will be ready to join our school community after half term! Frankie has been highly receptive to training and has been well-socialised. Frankie belongs to me, Anna, and is our family pet.

We have undertaken a full risk assessment to ensure that any hazards can be adequately controlled – please email the office if you wish to read the full document - and the relevant insurance is in place. I would like to give you all the opportunity to raise any concerns or ask questions before we take this forward and bring him in. Feel free to email via the office, or arrange a phone call with me, if this is the case. The key areas we have considered are that:

- During the day, Frankie will be based in the SLT Office – returning to Anna’s home once the school day is over.
- He will be toilet-trained – he will be taken out to the staff car park regularly, and any associated mess cleaned promptly.
- Whenever Frankie is being walked around the school, or in classrooms, he will wear a muzzle and a short lead to ensure he is controlled at all times.
- Frankie will visit pupils in their classrooms. He will spend time in every class, and for some, thrive time, reading and group play sessions. He will ALWAYS be supervised by a named adult handler.
- Any child who is allergic or anxious will be supported - parents will have the choice to opt out and we will ensure their child does not come into contact with Frankie

The research and benefits of having a school dog are extensive, I feel sure that he will bring much joy after COVID! We hope you share our excitement about hopefully having a school dog. If you wish your child to have no contact with Frankie, please inform the office asap with the reason and let us know if you would like to talk it through.

Kind regards,

Anna Catlin  
Assistant Headteacher - Nelson Infant School

