

*be curious, be resilient,
be compassionate*



Capenhurst C.E. (Cont) Primary School
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Dear Parents/Carers,

We are so excited to be able to tell you about a potential new member of the Capenhurst CE Primary School team – a dog called Margot! She is a Cavapoo which is a cross between a King Charles Cavalier and a Poodle.

Margot is Miss McColl's family dog and she is trained to a high standard to work with children. Our school dog will work alongside Miss McColl to support children who have special needs, suffer bereavement or who are upset in any way and in need of calm, comfort and space before being able to tell an adult what has upset them. Margot will also be available to work with children (and adults) who have had bad experiences with dogs or other animals. With parental permission, over a period of time children who react fearfully to dogs will be supported in approaching, handling and gaining confidence in managing their fear.

While the dog's main place of residence will be in the Green Room initially, children will be able to interact with the dog under strict supervision at certain times of the week as long as parental permission has been given. The dog will not be given access to other visitors without supervision and mutual consent. Please understand that we will do everything we can to reassure children who are fearful and that under no circumstances will they be forced to meet with the dog.

Whilst moving around the school, Margot will be kept on a short lead and will always be with an adult. Cavapoos are by nature gentle and friendly creatures. Margot came from a reputable breeder and was carefully picked, with much guidance from the breeder, for her temperament and her coat. She has a curly, very low shedding coat which makes her much less likely to affect those with allergies. Attached are a series of frequently asked questions which we hope will answer any queries you may have, but if you have any other concerns or questions, please contact us in school using the email address: contact@capenhurstcep.cheshire.sch.uk

We have devised a Risk Assessment for having Margot in school, along with a School Dog Policy & Rationale – both are available on the website. We hope the children will gain a great deal of enjoyment from having another school dog and that she, very quickly, becomes an established part of life at Capenhurst. Please complete the form that has been sent via ParentMail.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Green
Headteacher



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