

The Dog Mentor - Dog Assessment Form v3

This assessment is to be carried out by one of The Dog Mentor team. It is to determine the personality and behavioural characteristics of a dog that will be working as part of the programme.

The assessment will record the dog's suitability and provide input to the risk controls and mitigations that need to be put in place to ensure that the dog's welfare is maintained at all times along with the safety of the human interactions.

Advice will be given with respect to any items that need to be addressed with the dog's behaviour or the environment.

Please note that the questions do not necessarily have a right or wrong answer.

1. Date of Assessment *

15/01/2026



2. Owner's Name *

James Atherton

3. Owner's home address *

26 Stableford Close

4. Owner's contact phone number

07774993878

5. Owner's email address

athertonjames27@gmail.com; head@leyland-st-james.lancs.sch.uk

6. Dog's name *

Pippa

7. Dog's date of birth

01/04/2024



8. Breed of dog *

Labradoodle

9. How long has the dog been with the owner *

- 0-3 months
- 3-12 months
- More than 12 months

10. What was the location where the assessment actually took place? *

Leyland St. James CE Primary School

11. Was the dog presented on/in... *

- ID Tag
- Collar
- Harness
- Lead
- In an enclosed environment

12. **Approach** : describe the initial behaviour of the dog upon meeting it for the first time *

- Happy and confident communication. Wanted to introduce itself and moved toward the new person
- Happy and extremely calm. Looked for attention and wanted to explore new smells. Wanted to be touched and stroked
- Took time to adjust and process somebody new
- Did not engage and continued to sleep/play/rest
- Extremely excited
- Urinated on the floor during the greeting
- Advice given

13. Could dog walk confidently beside owner or handler? *

- On a lead
- Without a lead
- Walked in front
- Walked behind
- Pulled to investigate floor/environment
- Stayed next to and gave eye contact/engagement with owner, looking for and listening to instruction
- Advice given
- Other

14. **Physical examination** : by owner or assessor to engage with dog being touched and stroked *

- Dog was happy to be touched all over it's body
- Happy to be stroked on shoulders/back only
- Dog liked his/her tummy rubbed with a comfortable, relaxed tail and with a relaxed body

Dog backed away from hands

Advice given

Other

15.

Dog accepted : brush. Did the dog...

*

Like to look at it

Jumped up to engage with it

Like to have it on it's body

Like to be brushed on it's side and back

Like to be brushed on it's head, ears, tail, paws, tummy

Does not liked to be groomed

Advice given

Other

16.

Restraint : Dog handler to demonstrate restricting the dog by holding his collar and pulling it close (in case of emergency). Did the dog:

*

Accept readily

Pulled away but then accepted in a calm manner

Jumped up

Mouthed to the area of tension

Dog became scared/tense

Advice given

Other

17.

Assessor and owner to be sitting down and assessor to offer the dog a small food treat. Did the dog:

*

Not take it

Take it gently

Take it greedily

Snatch the treat

Dog's teeth were felt

Advice given

18. Did the dog lick? *

In an affectionate way

To nurse an individual

To explore new smells and tastes

To ease it's own anxiety

Did not lick at all

Advice given

Other

19. Did the dog lay down in the school environment? *

Layed down to rest throughout the day

- Was able to lie down on any surface
- Layed down to rest under instruction
- Only layed down to sleep in it's bed
- Could follow instruction to settle and rest next to an object or person
- Advice given
- Other

20.

How did the dog react to sudden noises and looming objects around the environment? Did the dog:

*

- Look towards source and ignore
- Flinch and look towards but recover
- Flinch, bark and move away
- Move towards sound/object to investigate
- Bark and move towards sound/object to investigate
- Did not react at all
- Advice given
- Other

21. Did the dog: *

- Need grooming
- Exhibit bad breath
- Have a dirty coat

Need it's nails trimmed

Appear fit and healthy

Move well

Advice given

22. Are there any physical problems with the dog? *

No

Yes - short term

Yes - long term

23. Please give details of physical issues (if applicable)

Pippa was a little tender after her operation to be spayed. This is a short term issue and she should recover well.

24. How did the dog communicate while being around small groups of people?

Calm, relaxed and confident

Sat waiting/observing

Excited and wanting to engage

Move away from louder environment

Showed a tense body and communicated an anxiety

Happy and confident when people were well regulated, controlled and stationary

Advice given

Other

25. Could the dog learn to follow simple instructions?

- All of the time
- Some of the time
- Depending on who was giving instruction
- Depending on environment and any distractions
- Advice given
- Other

26. Is the dog confident enough to be left alone in a suitable place to sleep?

- All of the time
- Some times, when noise level is low
- Dog needs to be with people while sleeping
- Dog needs to be with specific people it knows (name in other)
- Advice given
- Other

27. Which areas of the school was the dog happy with being around and did it cope with different surface types?

- Corridors
- Regulated classrooms
- Office areas
- Year group areas
- Library

- Sensory areas
- Meeting rooms
- Assembly halls
- Stairways
- Play areas
- Multi-use areas
- Advice given
- Other

28. Did the dog engage with any toys that were offered?

- Immediately to explore and investigate
- Wanted to play and carry them around
- Wanted to pull them apart to take out the interior stuffing
- Was not interested in any object that could be described as a toy
- Advice given
- Other

29. Did the dog get excited and want to jump up in any manner?

- Did not jump at all
- During the greeting
- During a training session
- When everyone was seated
- Walking to explore the school

Advice given

Other

30. Note any specific behaviours related to the dog's breed

Pippa is an excellent example of her Labradoodle breeding — extremely intelligent, eager to learn, and full of curiosity. Her calm and well-mannered nature is a real asset, allowing her to engage thoughtfully with people and her environment. Pippa's balanced temperament and enthusiasm for learning make her ideally suited to the school setting.

31. Has the dog been assessed as being suitable for working in schools? *

Yes

No

32. Final comments

Pippa has settled in beautifully at Leyland St James CE Primary School. She is perfectly suited to the Dog Mentor role, showing a calm and friendly nature throughout. Pippa is especially happy around children and will be a wonderful addition to the school community.

33. I have met the dog and all answers are correct at the time of completion. Ongoing assessment is necessary to ensure the dog remains suitable to participate in The Dog Mentor Programme.

Signed electronically *

Jenny Duckworth

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