



**Q** Is there going to be a dog roaming around the school as it pleases?

**A** No, there will always be very thorough planning and supervision related to all of the dogs movements.

**Q** How do I let the school know about some of our religious considerations?

**A** All families will be given the opportunity to give us information that we will need to be aware of and plan for.

**Q** Where does the dog live?

**A** The dog lives with a primary carer who is usually a staff member at the school. School announcements will inform you of these details.

**Q** How often will the dog be at school?

**A** The school dog will start out attending 1 day per week and may build up to a maximum of 3 days per week.

**Q** What if my child is allergic to dogs?

**A** This information will be collated by the school and your child can be included on many different levels without being at risk.

**Q** Will the dog be too distracting for my child's learning?

**A** This program, when done well, has proven to have far more positive impacts on learning than negative.

**Q** How is having a dog at school good for my child?

**A** When connection is built authentically between human and animal we see reduced anxiety, lowered heart rates, increased social and emotional development and more.

**Q** What if the dog bites someone?

**A** In our policy manual we have a strict protocol that will deal with any such issues should they arise.

**Q** What if my child is scared of dogs?

**A** Fear is something that will be respected and acknowledged as very real. We hope to discuss this with anyone who needs to.

**Q** Is this dog just for the kids with high needs?

**A** The school wellbeing dog will become a very familiar member of our entire community, not just for specific individuals or cohorts.

**Q** Can my child play or interact with the school dog?

**A** We will be looking to create as many possibilities to create connections between any interested students and the school dog, however, this may take some time.

**Q** Is the dog at risk of too much stimulation at school?

**A** If the school dog is living a really balanced work life, aligned with the Dogs Connect training model, we believe a healthy state will be sustained.