



Edgewood Primary School

Building skills and values for life

Headteacher: Mr Ed Seeley

www.edgewoodprimaryschool.co.uk

(0115) 956 1337

office@edgewood.notts.sch.uk

Tuesday, 20 February 2024

Dear parents / carers,



We are delighted to announce we are welcoming Aura the dog and her trained handler, Sandy Gafner, to our school on Wednesday 21st February. She will be spending some time in school every Wednesday afternoon in a secure space working with some pupils. These pupils have already been notified.

What will Aura do in school?

Aura will have constant supervision by her handler, Sandy. No child will be left alone with Aura and a school risk assessment to allow her to work in the building is in place. Aura will be kept on a lead if she needs to move round the building and is trained to be calm, not jump up and lay on her bed on command. Aura is a well-being dog who has experience of working with children in schools across Nottinghamshire.

Children and staff who have allergies to dogs

Parents and carers need to advise the school if their child has an allergy to dogs. Aura will not be allowed in parts of the school where children have allergies. Good hygiene routines and hand washing is to be followed by all who meet and work with Aura. Should any child develop allergic symptoms whilst working or following working with Aura, parents and carers will be informed immediately.

Children who have a fear of dogs

Please inform your child's class teacher if your child has a fear or phobia of dogs. As a school, we will ensure to minimise any risk of your child coming into direct contact with Aura. She will be working in a designated private space in school, so unplanned contact is extremely unlikely.



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Christchurch Road, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire, NG15 6HX

Health and Well-being of the dog

Aura is vaccinated, wormed and flea protected in accordance with the vet's recommendation. She is checked over regularly for parasites and will be kept clean and well groomed. If Aura is unwell, she will not visit the school. She is walked before attending school and will have regular breaks built into her morning, where she can rest peacefully. Aura will only be working for the afternoon and has her own risk assessment to be able to work in school. Should you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact school using the contact information at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully

Donna Bradley

Assistant Head Teacher & SENCo