



# All about Joey

Including his 'Risk Assessment'

Site or Location: Downsview Nursery and Primary School	
Assessor: Ms Pugh- Headteacher and Mr Cooke- Site Manager	Date: May 2024
Review Date: May 2025 or as appropriate	



#### Joey's main purpose at Downsview:

1. Teaches us responsibility. Having to remember to feed, provide water and show support for Joey can give children a sense of importance and satisfaction that comes with caring for another living being. The relationship and bond that grows can be life-changing for a child and a great support system as they themselves continue to grow and develop.
2. Teaches us patience. Joey does not always do as he is told first time... or may not at all as he may be tired or not feel well. This could mean that their activity would have to be rescheduled.
3. Teaches us compassion. Just like humans, Joey feels emotion and pain. He is prone to injuries and the infirmities of age during their relatively short lives.
4. Teaches us about socialisation. Like most of us, dogs are social animals who enjoy and need attention and affection. By learning how to interact with Joey, children can learn how to better socialise with other children. If they can learn the social cues from Joey, then interacting with humans who can talk will be a walk in the park (pun intended).
5. Teaches us about calmness. Having Joey around the school helps the children think about how they move around the school. Joey is also very relaxing (at times) so the children can come and give him strokes and cuddle up with him. This helps to calm them through difficult times.
6. Family pet. To give all children and adults a chance to feel they have a pet in their life as part of the Downsview family.
7. Helps us learn from our mistakes. Children know that Joey does not make any judgements about their choices. He is a gentle ear for them to talk to and seek advice from. He will always listen so they can work out ways to make amends and change their behaviour.
8. Helps overcome a fear of dogs by learning how to be around dogs safely. Joey is a very safe dog who has been rigorously trained to work with children and adults. This is a perfect opportunity for those who are afraid to learn how to interact with a dog in a safe setting. We also teach our children how to interact with dogs they don't know.
9. Joey is fun and extremely loyal. Last, but certainly not least, Joey is a lot of fun and loyal. Every day, he will greet you with a wagging tail, generally carrying a toy, and can cheer you up even on your worst day.

In addition to these 9 key reasons for Joey joining us, outlined above, we also believe he will improve the children's abilities within the school's 6 core values and help to improve and secure higher attendance levels.

#### Joey's Biography:

Joey is our school dog who lives with the Headteacher, Ms Pugh. Joey is a very caring and well behaved dog who is a real asset to Downsview.

#### Joey's Family History:

Joey's was born on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2019 to a cocker spaniel Mother and a miniature poodle Father. This makes Joey ½ cocker spaniel and ½ poodle – this mix is known as a Cockapoo. Joey has come from a professional and responsible breeder who lives in the countryside and there were plenty of children around to ensure Joey had lots of time with young children from the moment he was born.

### **Joey's Journey at Downsview:**

Ms Pugh adopted Joey when he was 9 weeks old and from that very moment, Joey joined the Downsview family community. Joey spent all of July 2019 getting to know the children, staff and parents little by little. Over the summer holidays and into the Autumn term, Joey was rigorously trained by Ms Pugh and then undertook his first round of puppy training. He was brilliant and passed with doggie distinction- of course! Joey was clean by the time he started back to school and was able to engage and work with children whilst being supervised. Over the next few months Joey had a core group of children who helped Ms Pugh train him and work with some children. This really helped the children build a close bond with Joey and him with them. Of course, all of our adults helped train Joey too, especially the office team and Mr Cooke.

During COVID, times did change but eventually Joey built new relationships and again had another core group of children work and look after him. Over the last few years, we have had a successful system of the older children training our younger Key stage 2 children to care and look after Joey so that he always has a responsible group of children to take Joey around the school to help the other children.

As Joey grows up he will need different types of training at varying times across his life. He is always closely monitored for changes in behaviour, stamina, routines etc. We reflect on what is going well for Joey and the training he may need at these stages. When things come up we then work together with Joey to help him.

Joey has been a part of this school since he was a puppy and has been carefully trained by adults, children and dog specialists. As a result, he is able to roam the school on and off the lead with responsible children and/or adults. He does not always need to have direct supervision when he is with the majority of the children, however, we do make sure that if we feel that there are children who Joey is not able to be alone with, then he is not. If Joey is with the children, we will monitor him on CCTV and communicate with adults using our walkie-talkie system.

### **A usual day in the life of Joey:**

Joey wakes up every day very excited to come to school to play and help his friends. He will always have a lovely walk or run in the park or woods, which helps him prepare for the day ahead. When he gets to school, he likes to have free time to roam the school greeting his aunties, uncles and breakfast club friends!

Some of his favourite parts of the day is going out to the gates in the morning to make sure all of his friends come in happy and smiling. If someone is sad or may need some extra help he is there. Lots of our children like to give Joey strokes as they go by, stop for a quick cuddle or chat, sometimes they even like to walk with Joey. Once all of our children are in the building, Joey likes to wander around into the classrooms and say good morning. Depending on where he is needed will determine whether you get to see him or not. Don't worry because he is always around somewhere. After all of this excitement Joey tends to have a nap, unless of course someone needs a cuddle!

Lots of Joey's friends come at break time and take him out for a little run around and to practice his tricks, which he enjoys... with a few treats of course! At lunchtime, Joey is visited by some more children to either have a bit of quiet time, practice his tricks, play with him or even take him outside for another little run around. We make sure that Joey doesn't go into the lunch hall because he is not allowed to have any human food. All of our children

know this and that is why they are very careful when they are eating to keep their food/wrappers on their plate or in the bins. When the weather is nice the children also make sure they keep the outside eating area clean too.

In the afternoon, we don't plan too many things for Joey because he likes to have a fairly free schedule so that he is available when his friends need him. At the end of the day, Joey will walk around the playground to say goodnight to everyone. His job is not done because he still has some time to spend with the children in After School Club. Some of the things Joey likes to do is to run in the playground, play silly games, read, do his times tables, chat or just chill out. There are times throughout the day where Joey joins in with Forest School or PE sessions, which are also two of his favourites.

### **Things to note:**

#### **Training the children about Joey and dog safety:**

If adults and children have limited knowledge of how to interact correctly with Joey, then this could result in harming themselves or Joey. Therefore, every year we have a dog training session (including how to interact with other unknown dogs) with all of the children. Throughout the year teachers may revisit this training, as and when needed. Nursery and Reception may have more sessions because they are young and new to the school. As part of this training, staff and pupils are shown the correct way to behave and interact with Joey. We continuously remind children and adults, as and when it is necessary.

As an extension of whole school training, we have a core group of children who are responsible for looking after Joey around the school. These children have been trained specifically on how to deal with a situation when someone is acting incorrectly or inconsistently, which may affect Joey's training, wellbeing or have a negative impact on his future interaction.

Joey is also a member of the Dog's Trust which provides useful training on looking after pets.

#### **Insurance and Health Care**

Joey has his own pet insurance to look after his health needs through Pet Plan. The school's insurance policy provides employer liability and public liability cover for Joey where the school is legally liable to pay any compensation in the event of a claim.

The Dog Trust also includes some additional third party public liability cover. The school has also taken out specialist insurance cover for school dogs through Pet Business Insurance to ensure that Joey is properly insured and protected.

Joey regularly visits the vet for check-ups.

He has monthly flea treatments and every 3 months he is treated for worms.

Joey is formally groomed, usually 4 times a year. Although the children and Ms Pugh ensure he is regularly brushed and we care for his dental hygiene as well.

Joey's food intake is monitored so that he does not receive too many treats each day. We also remind the children to wash their hands after handling Joey's food.

Joey has a least 1 walk or run every day so that he has the freedom to play, sniff, socialise with other dogs and people as well as enjoy the many parks, lakes, rivers, hillsides and sea!

**Special events:**

We have monitored Joey's reaction to school events and he tends to make some appearances but if there is food or very loud music etc then he doesn't stay for long.

Area: Interaction with pupils and staff					
Reason: To ensure interactions are appropriate at all times					
Identify the Hazards	Who might be harmed?	Controls Present	SEVERITY OF HARM	RISK RATING	RISK LEVEL
Joey biting	Child or adult could be hurt if Joey bites	<p>Joey has been trained not to bite. When he is approached in the correct way by children there is no danger of him biting. Joey has been working with children since he was 9 weeks old he is very used to interaction with children and adults.</p> <p>Ensure that all interactions with Joey is completed in the agreed way by children gently stroking Joey on his head and back, hand facing down gently brought to his nose, sitting with him and stroking him.</p> <p>All children taught the right way to behave with and around Joey. Regular updates carried out during full Ks1 and Ks2 assemblies or circle times in class on Behaviour around and with Joey</p>	Slightly Harmful	Highly unlikely	Trivial
Jumping up/scratching	If Joey becomes excited there is a danger that he could jump up and knock somebody over or leave a scratch mark.	<p>The temperament of Joey and the agreed training programme has involved not jumping up with praise/rewards being given when successful.</p> <p>Train children on how to approach Joey so that he doesn't become extremely excited.</p> <p>Train the children on how to give Joey a treat- We do three tricks and a treat (this alleviates unintentional teasing), kneel down and hold out the treat on a flat hand, new to giving treats this is modelled to the children and they are supported (by adult or responsible children in charge of Joey).</p> <p>Keep Joey's nails trimmed as best as possible</p>	Slightly harmful	Unlikely	Tolerable
Barking	<p>If Joey becomes nervous, anxious or scared he may run and bark excessively. <i>This might scare the adult/child.</i></p> <p>If Joey becomes excited, wants something like</p>	<p>The person who is with Joey- child or adult will distract Joey by offering treats to do tricks which will change his behaviour but not reinforce the barking. They will also reassure Joey that he is safe and we will speak to the person to let them know why Joey is barking.</p> <p>We try not to put Joey in situations where people will clap, dance or there are loud noises.</p> <p>It is important that we teach our children and adults that all dogs bark and this is how they communicate. There is no control measure to stop Joey from normal barking.</p>	Slightly Harmful	Highly unlikely	Trivial

	food, toilet, cuddles etc the noise may unsettle or scare the adult or child.	The school can only educate people on why Joey barks and the different barking behaviours that he has. Joey has a few barking patterns: Barking when he is nervous, anxious or scared Barking when he is excited Barking when he needs something- toilet, food, water etc Barking when he wants you to stop something- clapping (loud noises), dancing or when teasing him			
Growling	If Joey is hurt or is scared of what is going on he may bark or growl to warn his responsible child or adult that he is in harm's way. This might scare the child or adult.	Growls as a warning sign he is worried that he will be harmed. We immediately remove Joey.  The children know not to grab Joey by his collar and pull him around or pull his tail because he doesn't like this.	Slightly Harmful	Highly unlikely	Trivial

<b>Area: Interaction with pupils and staff</b>					
<b>Reason: Joey's health care and Humans hygiene</b>					
<b>Identify the Hazards</b>	<b>Who might be harmed?</b>	<b>Controls Present</b>	<b>SEVERITY OF HARM</b>	<b>RISK RATING</b>	<b>RISK LEVEL</b>
Worms/fleas	Joey	The school dog will be treated monthly for fleas and every 3 months for worms	Slightly Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Trivial
Faeces	If a child/adult come into contact with dog faeces some germs could be transferred	If a child or adult finds faeces (of any sort) on the school field/playground they will report it to an adult.  No child will be asked to pick up the dog's faeces, this will always be undertaken by an adult unless permission has been given by the parent. If this is the case the child will be trained and reminded to wash their hands	Slightly Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Trivial
Allergies	If a child is allergic to dogs they could become unwell	Joey is a Cockapoo and is hyper allergenic.  Parents to be informed we have a school dog and requested to inform the school of any allergies a child might have with Joey.	Slightly Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Trivial
Contact with food preparation areas	If a dog enters a food preparation area this could be unhygienic	Joey does not enter the lunch hall whilst the children are having their lunch. IF Joey does get out he is spotted by an adult who brings him back to the office.  He will never enter the school kitchen	Slightly Harmful	Highly Unlikely	Trivial

## CALCULATING THE RISK

Severity of harm	Examples:
Slightly Harmful	Superficial injuries; minor cuts and bruises; eye irritation from dust. Nuisance and irritation e.g. headaches; ill health causing discomfort.
Harmful	Lacerations; burns; concussion; serious sprain; minor fractures. Deafness; dermatitis; asthma; work related upper limb disorder; ill health leading to minor disability
Extremely harmful	Amputations; major fractures; poisoning; multiple fractures; fatal injuries. Occupational cancer, other severely life shortening diseases; acute fatal diseases.

RISK RATING	Slightly harmful	Harmful	Extremely harmful
Highly Unlikely	Trivial	Tolerable	Moderate
Unlikely	Tolerable	Moderate	Substantial
Likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable

RISK LEVEL	ACTION AND TIMESCALE
Trivial	No action required. No records need to be kept
Tolerable	No additional controls are required. Consideration may be given to a more cost-effective solution or improvement that imposes no additional cost burden. Monitoring is required to ensure controls are maintained.
Moderate	Efforts should be made to reduce the risk, but the costs of prevention should be carefully measured and limited. Risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined period. Where the moderate risk is associated with extremely harmful consequences, further assessment may be necessary to establish more precisely the likelihood of harm as a basis for determining the need for improved control measures.
Substantial	Work should not be started until the risk has been reduced. Considerable resources may have to be allocated to reduce the risk. Where the risk involves work in progress, urgent action should be taken.
Intolerable	Work should not be started or continued until the risk has been reduced. If it is not possible to reduce the risk even with unlimited resources, work has to remain prohibited. to