

# Halton Community Combined School

Tring Road, Halton, Aylesbury, HP22 5PN

Tel: 01296 622264

E-mail: [office@haltoncc.school](mailto:office@haltoncc.school)

Website: [www.halton.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.halton.bucks.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr. Colin Horsfield



Positivity :: Respect :: Honesty :: Perseverance :: Loyalty :: Courage

Dear Parents and Carers,



It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to Betsy, our school dog. I am really pleased to say that Betsy will be joining us every week and that she will be in school every Tuesday and Wednesday morning. During this time she will have the opportunity to be with all of the classes. There may not be the chance for her to visit each class every week, however across the term everyone will get the opportunity to meet her if they wish.

Betsy is a Miniature Schnauzer, a good breed for school dogs as she is not too big, she is friendly and good with children and she is hypoallergenic, meaning that she sheds a minimal amount of hair. Betsy also happens to belong to my dad so she is a dog that I know very well. Betsy has been our school dog since January 2022 and I am really pleased with the impact that she has made, particularly on the well-being of the children and staff.

I do appreciate that not everybody likes dogs and that we may have members of our community who would be nervous about her being in school. Please be reassured that nobody will be forced to spend time with Betsy if they do not want to. If this applies to your child, please let us know by emailing [office@haltoncc.school](mailto:office@haltoncc.school) and we will make sure that Betsy is kept away from them. I would hope that in time, having a dog in school will help those children who are nervous around dogs but again, nobody will be forced to interact with her if they choose not to.

I am also aware that we may have children with allergies to dogs so I would appreciate if you could email [office@haltoncc.school](mailto:office@haltoncc.school) to let us know if this applies to your child and again, we will ensure that she does not interact with them. As stated earlier, she is hypoallergenic which reduces the chance of allergic reactions, but does not eradicate the risk completely.

We spent a long time researching and planning for a school dog and we have had to write a detailed policy and risk assessment. This document has been approved by the governors and is available for you to read on our school website on our new 'school dog' page: <https://www.halton.bucks.sch.uk/school-dog/>

Please do take the time to read this and if there are still any questions or queries that you have then please do contact the office and they will pass these on to myself.



THE ROYAL SOCIETY  
Associate Schools and Colleges



# Halton Community Combined School

Tring Road, Halton, Aylesbury, HP22 5PN

Tel: 01296 622264

E-mail: [office@haltoncc.school](mailto:office@haltoncc.school)

Website: [www.halton.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.halton.bucks.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr. Colin Horsfield



**Positivity :: Respect :: Honesty :: Perseverance :: Loyalty :: Courage**

I hope, like me, that you are excited by the furriest member of our team and are looking forward to seeing the positive impact that Betsy continues to have on our school community. We will also regularly update the new website page to show you the sorts of activities that she gets involved in when she is in school.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us. Please don't forget to let us know if you would prefer for your child not to interact with Betsy or if they have an allergy to dogs.

Kind regards,

*C Horsfield*

Mr. C. Horsfield  
Headteacher



Betsy  
School Dog



THE ROYAL SOCIETY  
Associate Schools and Colleges

