



Education Workshops Guide



Mr. Tom
Mrs.
Miss
-20



What is Be Dog Smart?



Be Dog Smart is the Dogs Trust Education Programme offering exciting, interactive dog welfare workshops and assemblies based on our key theme of **Safe Behaviour Around Dogs**. Our lessons are designed to **complement areas of the curriculum** and generally **support classroom learning**.

Ages 7-11 (approx. 1 hour)

Our safety workshop aims to encourage learners to consider and implement a more compassionate, realistic understanding of what is safe and appropriate behaviour around both the dogs they share their homes with, as well as those belonging to other people.

Safety assembly: Children ages 5 to 11 (20-30 minutes*)

We strongly encourage schools to book an assembly in addition to workshops to engage the whole school. Our assemblies cover important advice such as when it wouldn't be safe or fair to stroke a dog, as well as what to do if approached by a dog you don't know.

Ages 5-7 (approx. 20-30 minutes*)

Once minimum booking requirements are met, we would be happy to offer classes with children aged 5 to 7 our Happy Dog Rules workshop. This workshop uses role play, repetition and action to teach learners 5 safety rules about their own behaviour to ensure the dogs in their lives are relaxed and happy.

***Timings and availability for this will need to be agreed with your local Education and Community Officer.**

Frequently Asked Questions



How much will it cost? Do we need to fundraise?

The education programme is free of charge and is not linked to fundraising. There is no cost for our workshops, and you can book as many as you like! Should you wish to make a donation, however, that would of course be very gratefully received. You can do this in the following ways:

- By phone as a card payment: 0207 837 0006
- Online at: <https://www.dogstrust.org.uk/donation/>
- By cheque made payable to Dogs Trust. This can be sent to Head Office: FAO Donor Admin, Dogs Trust, 17 Wakley Street, London, EC1V 7RQ
- **We cannot accept cash donations in any circumstances.**

What are your minimum booking requirements?

Our target audience is children aged 7-11, and they are therefore the focus of our school visits and online workshops. All bookings must include a minimum of two individual workshops for children aged 7-11.

Do you visit other settings, e.g. SEN schools, secondary schools, home-school groups, etc.?

We have very limited provision outside of mainstream primary school settings, but please get in touch with your local Education and Community Officer to discuss your requirements.

We have a School Dog. Do you offer anything to support us?

Dogs Trust offers two sessions specifically designed for schools who have a School Dog. We offer a School Dog Assembly and a School Dog Safety Workshop for learners age 7-11. Both the assembly and the in-class workshop cover general safety messaging, which can be applied to all dogs, whilst also offering more tailored advice that both staff and learners can follow in order to behave in a kind, respectful and safe way around their school dog. We also provide a comprehensive guidance document around the use of dogs in school environments, which can be found here <https://www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk/school-dogs/>



Frequently Asked Questions



Do you offer online workshops?

We are delighted to offer a virtual experience. These fun and interactive 60-minute online workshops are delivered directly to your classroom via a secure online platform (e.g. Zoom, Microsoft Teams). All you need is an interactive whiteboard so that we can share our presentation and a working webcam and microphone in the classroom(s) that we will be delivering to.

Will a real dog be visiting?

Education and Community Officers **do not** use real dogs when visiting schools, and nor will they appear in online workshops. Pretend dogs are used as an alternative.

You can read Dogs Trust's stance on the use of dogs in schools and download our guidance document here:

www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk/school-dogs.

We have pupils that are scared of dogs. Could your workshops help them?

We often receive feedback that our workshops have helped pupils and staff feel better about dogs. For those that need a little more help, we have developed an online information resource for children and their parents/carers about understanding dogs better and hopefully build their confidence. You can download this here:

<https://www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk/building-confidence/>

What do you need?

We bring all the resources we need to deliver our in-person workshops. Presentations will be brought on a USB drive, so we need access to a laptop or computer connected to a projector or Smart Board. If this is not possible, discuss with your Education and Community Officer prior to a visit so alternative arrangements can be made.

How can I book?

Your local Education and Community Officer will manage the booking process with you. You can find all contact details on

www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk.





**We look forward
to hearing from you!**