



December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We are excited to announce a wonderful new addition to our school community, Goose, our School Therapy Dog!



BBA is proud to be introducing and supporting a school Therapy Dog with the expert support of PAWS Therapy Dog Training, the UK's leading Therapy Dog training provider. We chose PAWS due to their specialism in successfully training dogs to support children and young people in several settings across the country.

You may already be aware that Therapy Dogs have been proven to enhance the well-being of students by providing emotional support and reducing stress and anxiety, as well as teaching important skills such as empathy and responsibility. PAWS Therapy Dogs have an incredible track record of boosting academic progress, improving attendance and motivation for learning!

Goose is a Lurcher and is currently working through professional training with PAWS and our designated school handlers, to ensure that he is ready and fully prepared for this important role in our Academy.

Alongside Goose, the following staff are also being trained to handle Goose and support him when he is working with our students so that we will be able to maximise the therapeutic experience:

- Debbie Wainhouse
- Kyli Willetts
- Katie Withers

We are confident that the introduction of a Therapy Dog will bring numerous benefits to our school community, from providing comfort and companionship through to fostering emotional growth and learning. We look forward to sharing the positive outcomes of having Goose in school and hope you will follow along the journey!

Yours sincerely,

The Therapy Dog Team, and Goose