



‘The Dog Mentor’ Project

Broadwas CE VA Primary and Bumblebees Pre-School

On Monday 10th November 2025, two members of staff were trained as dog handlers by Jenny, 'The Dog Mentor', funded by a Wellbeing grant from Public Health England. Lottie passed her assessment with flying colours, and our Dog Mentor Programme got underway!



The Dog Mentor
Affiliated School



Lottie spent time in school, becoming familiar with the environment. Then she started working with individuals and pairs of children in school on Fridays, and all classes had Lottie visits to practice being 'Lottie Ready'. This meant sitting quietly on chairs with hands on the tables and making sure that things weren't left on the floor!





Now, Lottie meets and greets the children as they arrive in school on Friday mornings. Children, staff and parents stop by to say hello! This is a very special start to the day which has a positive impact on everyone's wellbeing.

Lottie loves spending time in our classes and at Bumblebees, our Preschool, and the children love spending time with her. She helps the younger children with their learning; listening to stories with them, counting, measuring, throwing and catching and supporting discussions about hygiene and healthy eating. Above all, she helps us feel calm, she reminds us to be kind and considerate to each other and to Live Our Values Everyday.



Lottie joins us for Friday's Celebration Assembly, when we gather together in the Hall. One of Lottie's helpers now looks after her. We celebrate our children's achievements with certificates and we do 'marshmallow' clapping, so as not to overwhelm Lottie. She is very much a part of our school family.





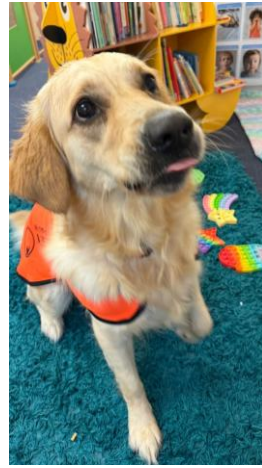
Through the programme we are delighted that we are seeing:

- fantastic peer relationships
- increasing emotional literacy



- increased engagement in learning
- improved confidence and self-esteem
- reduced anxiety
- open, honest communication.





~ Valuing ~ Growing ~ Flourishing ~

Many thanks Public Health England for the Wellbeing grant which funded the 'Dog Mentor' programme at Broadwas. It will continue to benefit our whole school community.