



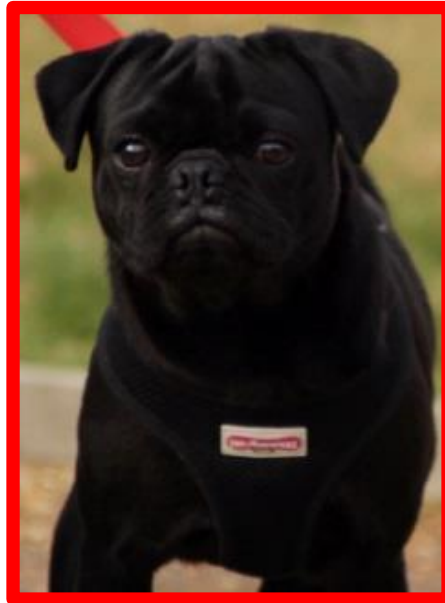
St Paul's Church of England Academy

A part of the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust



Meet Wilfred our Pet Therapy Dog!

Cognitive benefits - it has been proven that therapy dogs stimulate memory and problem-solving skills.



Physical benefits - interaction with therapy dogs has been shown to provide physical stimulation.

Emotional and mental health benefits - A therapy dog can lift moods in the classroom, often provoking laughter. The therapy dog is also there to offer friendship and a shoulder to lean on for students.

Social benefits - a visiting therapy dog promotes greater self-esteem and focused interaction with other students and teachers.

The value of pet 'therapy' is widely accepted as a powerful aid to stimulation and communication. Studies have shown that the presence of companion animals can improve the well-being of children and lower the rate of anxiety, simply by making the environment happier, more enjoyable and less forbidding.

Wilfred is regularly seen around the academy by the children with his designated adult. He is also used to work closely with some children through physical stimulation to help build upon pupils' social skills and to encourage greater self-esteem. Parents' permission will be sort before any close work of this kind occurs.