



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### Meet Freddie-The School's Therapy Dog

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to announce a wonderful new addition to our school community - **Freddie**, who will become our School Therapy Dog!

Valentine Primary School is proud to be introducing a school therapy dog with the expert support of PAWS Therapy Dog Training, the UK'S leading Therapy Dog training provider.

With certified PAWS Therapy Dogs making a difference in hundreds of educational establishments around the UK, as well as within the NHS and police force, we chose PAWS due to their specialism in successfully training dogs to support children and young people.

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. And excitingly, PAWS Therapy Dogs have an incredible track record of boosting academic progress, improving attendance and motivation for learning!



**Freddie**, is a **cavapoo**, and is currently working through professional training with PAWS and our designated school handlers, to ensure their readiness for this important role.

Please log onto your child's Arbor account to give permission for your child to have contact with our school's Therapy dog who will be in school from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Yours sincerely

Valentine Primary School