



**St. Anne's School**  
ALDERNEY

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**Headteacher: Mr M A Winward**

Thursday 17 March, 2022

Dear parents and carers,



**Re School Therapy Dog – Stanley**

From **Monday 25 April, 2022**, our School Therapy Dog will begin working with identified pupils, away from the school site. Children will be selected for this intervention based on referral by teachers and parental consent obtained prior to the work commencing.

Therapy work using dogs with children and young people has been widely researched and proved to have a range of benefits for learners, such as supporting them to become more confident reader or reducing stress and anxiety.

Therapy dogs must have impeccable temperaments; have undergone training, and have been carefully assessed to confirm that they are suitable to work with children. The dogs are required to undergo annual re-assessments to make sure high standards are maintained. The dogs must also have an annual vet check and vaccinations, regular flea and worm treatments and be subject to high standards of grooming. Stanley has met all of these requirements and is now ready to broaden his horizons to still include his regular work at The Connaught Care Home and the Youth Club.

The dog that will be helping at our school is called Stanley (named by the school community when he first arrived in Alderney as a puppy), and has been trained/assessed by Paws for Support – a local charity, registered in Guernsey.

When working with children and young people, Stanley will remain on lead and with one of his Handlers, Ms Smith or Mr Moore, at all times. Stanley will be clearly identified with a harness displaying the assessing organisation's name & logo. Stanley will also have a safe space identified depending upon the location in which he is working.

If you would like any further information or have any questions please contact Ms Smith by email via the School Office [office@alderney.sch.gg](mailto:office@alderney.sch.gg) or 01481 822173. If you know your child has any issues with dogs that you think might be relevant, please also let us know.

Thank you for your support. Woof!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M A Winward'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the top and a long, sweeping tail that ends in a small flourish.

MR M A Winward

**Headteacher**

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