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SEN SPECIALIST
SCHOOLS

A Specialist College for Sensory and Physical



Wednesday 18th September 2019.

Dear Parents and Carers,



I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to a new member of the Nurture and Pastoral care team here at The Clare School. This is Fudge.

Following a charitable donation by one of our families, we have been given the opportunity to adopt Fudge as The Clare School's dog. He has been bred specifically to be passive and loving. Fudge is a Kennel Club registered Shitzu, aged 7 months. He has already undergone all his initial checks and early training. Fudge is owned by one of our staff. This means he has a loving home life when not in school.

The evidence is stacking up about the role of pets, and dogs specifically, in schools. Please feel free to look at these school websites to see the roles dogs have in other schools:

- Elm Tree Community Primary School (a school pet for pupils social and emotional development)
- The Valley School Stevenage (a special school with a pug in its nurture hub)
- Queen's Hill School (helping children through an upsetting time)
- Springfield House Special School (developing communication and language skills)

This has been an incredibly exciting process for the school. Fudge was named by the pupils following a vote.

All the appropriate risk assessments are in place and his role will be similar to the PAT dogs we have that visit the school. Fudge will spend more time as part of our Nurture provision.

We are aware of those pupils who have specific dog allergies. If you have concerns about your child being part of adult-led activities with Fudge or our PAT dog, please contact the school office to make us aware.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions regarding this please feel free to contact myself or our Deputy Head, Rebecca.

With kindest regards,

Fyfe Johnston

