

# Ysgol Maes Owen



Aim to learn, learn to succeed ~ Anelu at ddysgu, dysgu i lwyddo

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A few years ago now, Ysgol Maes Owen welcomed a dog as a member of the welfare and support team. Mo is a 'Morkie', (Yorkshire Terrier crossed with a Maltese), and belongs to Mrs Foulkes, the Headteacher and her family. Research has shown that school dogs have many advantages in school such as:

- They have a relaxing and calming effect on pupils, especially those with behavioural or learning difficulties
- They can encourage expression and participation in quieter children
- They can cultivate a sense of responsibility
- They can help with children to nurture and respect life
- They can assist with work carried out with the children who are the most vulnerable and/or who have suffered trauma
- They can help children to gain confidence in reading
- They can help develop basic life skills
- They can support people who suffer from anxiety and as a result can help to improve a pupil's attendance percentage
- They can also help with the relaxation of pupils during difficult times.

Mo continues to grow up in the school environment and is fully familiar with the routines of the day and offers support to the school's pupils. This type of dog has been chosen very carefully in order to try to ensure that it contributes successfully to the school life of our pupils.

Naturally, Mrs Foulkes will be the point of contact for any questions regarding the dog. If you would **not** like your child to receive the support of the dog or if your child is allergic to dogs, please fill in the form below. We would like to emphasise that the wellbeing of Mo is a priority for the school and therefore any pupil who shows a negative or cruel attitude towards him will not have access to, or receive his support.

Many thanks for your ongoing support as always.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Foulkes  
Headteacher

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## Mo, the school dog – Slip to withdraw access

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: My child **cannot** have access to Mo because \_\_\_\_\_

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If you have additional needs relating to disability, language or cultural issues with which you require assistance at a particular school event, please contact us to arrange the assistance required.



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