

We will begin at
4:00pm

Dogs in educational settings supporting children, young people and adults

1st November 2023



Using Microsoft Teams



Please ensure that your microphone is muted your camera is off



Camera



Mic



If you would like to comment, please use the chat function



Chat



This session **will be** recorded



00:16



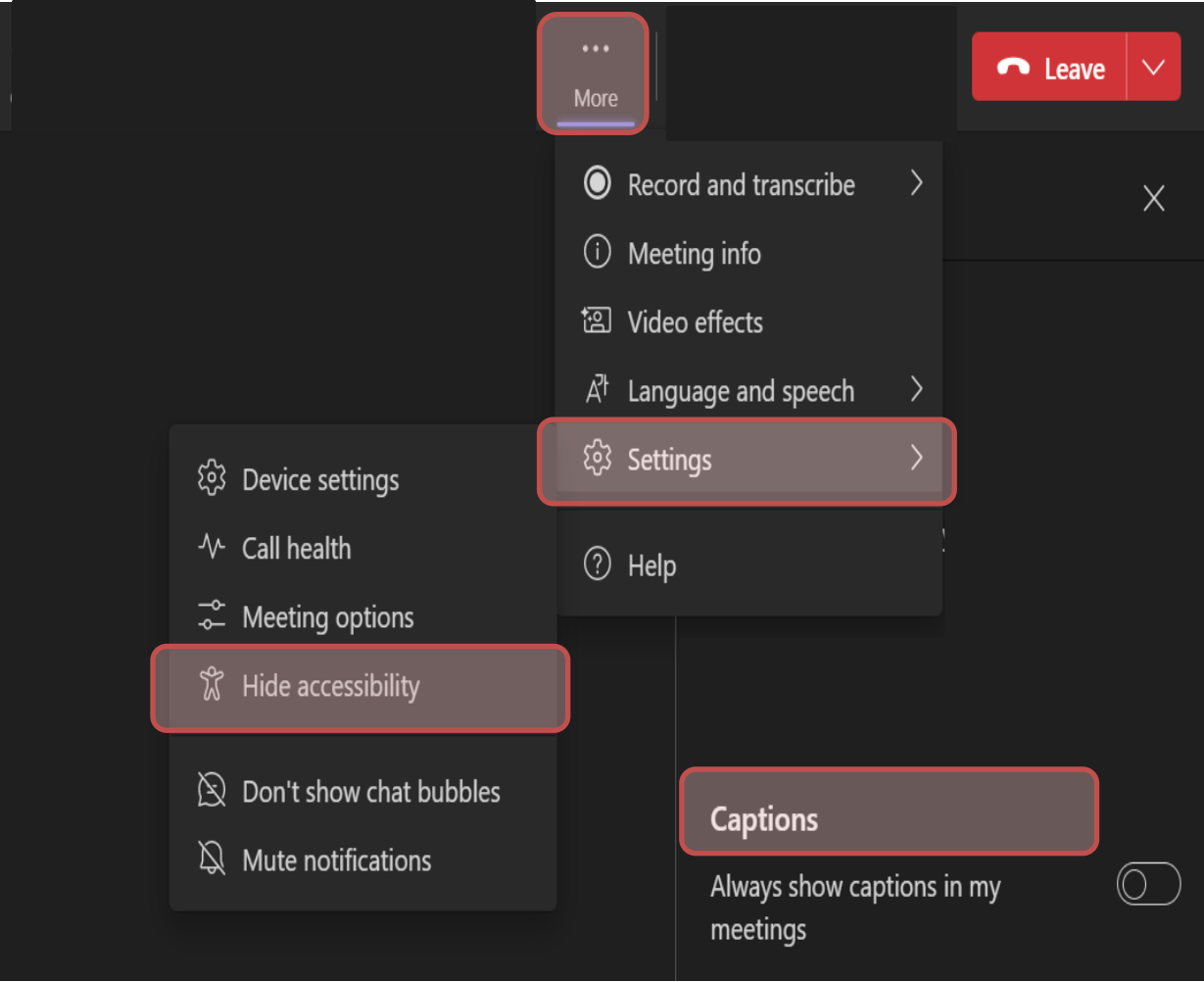
If you lose the slides or sound, please leave and rejoin



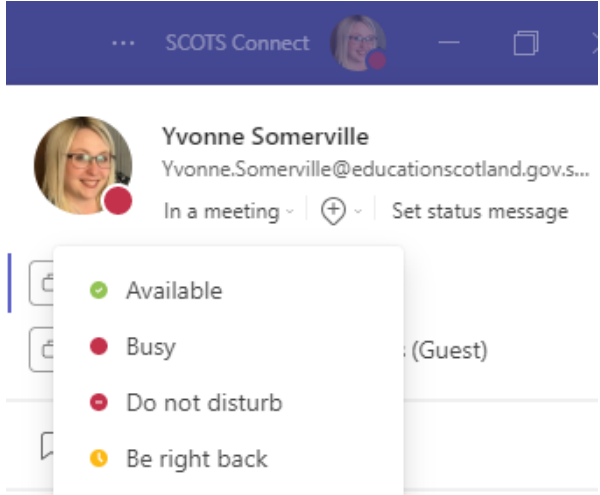
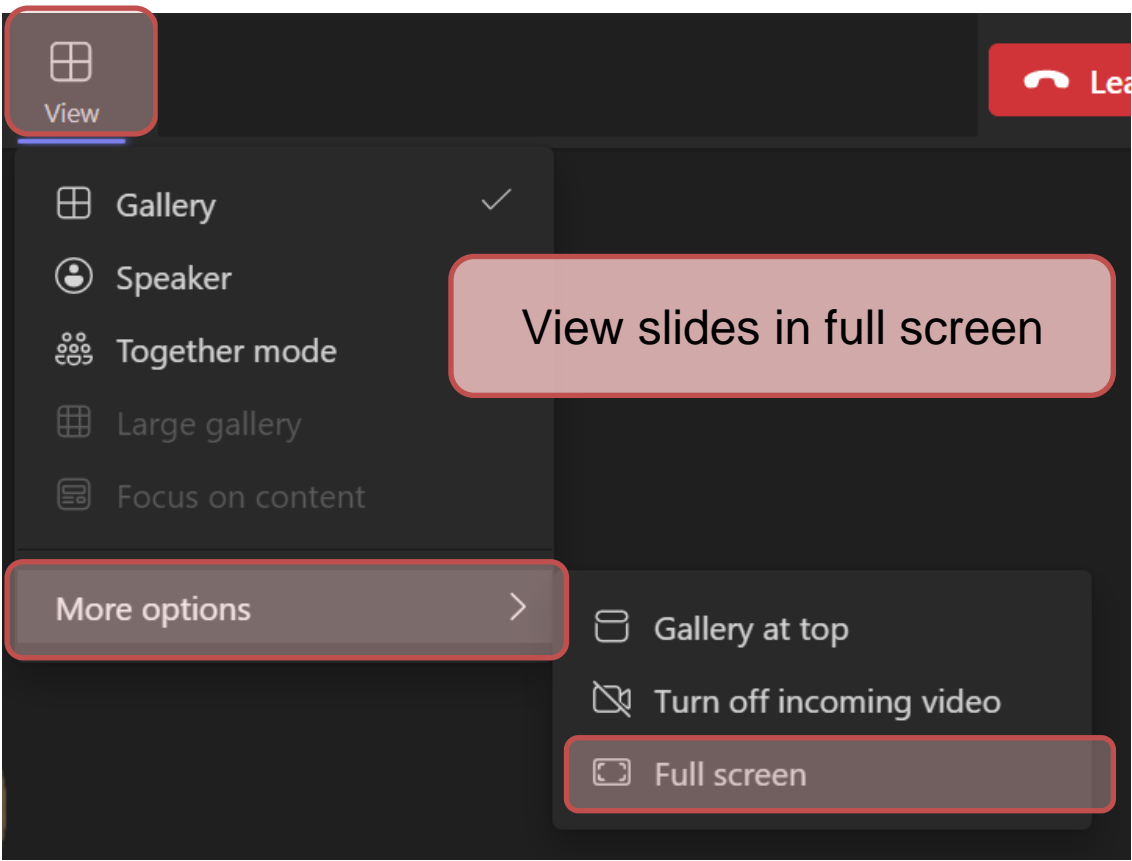
Leave



Accessibility in Teams



Turn on captions



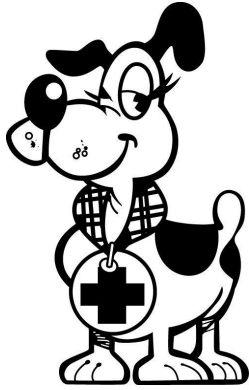
Turn off chat notifications

Aims of the Session



- To explore some of the benefits visiting dogs can bring to educational settings.
- To discuss some of the key considerations which need to be made before arranging visits.
- To hear from practitioners involved in the Therapet Visiting programme.

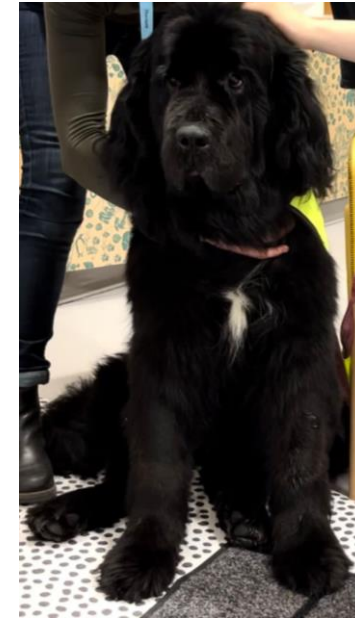
Presenters



Mel Hughes
*Canine Concern
Scotland Trust*



Emma Taylor &
Therapet Jamie
Braes High School



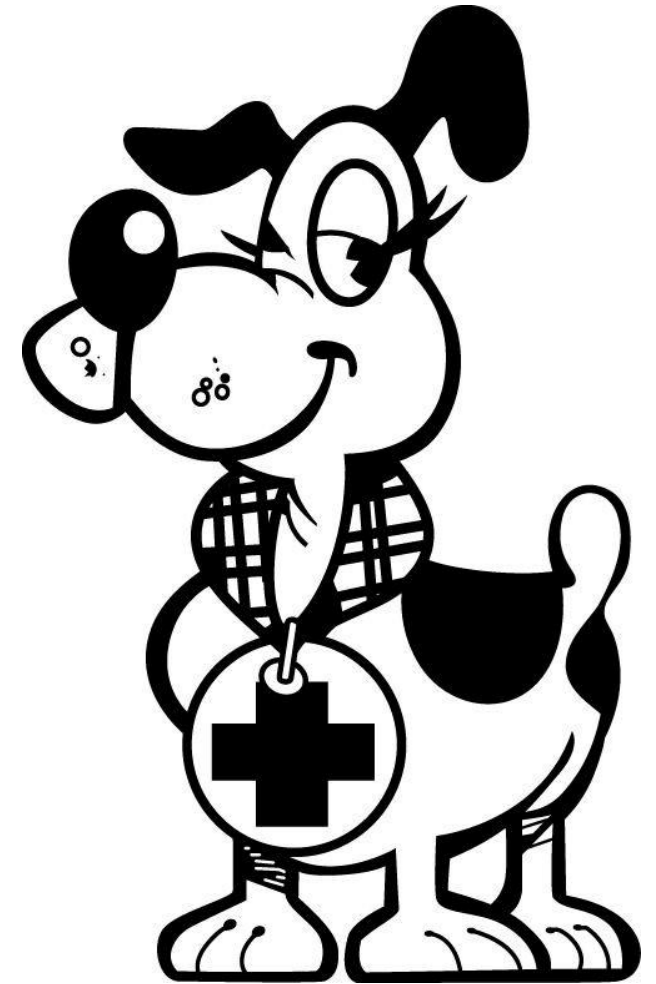
Eilidh Clark &
Therapet Sylvie
Niddrie Mill Primary



Yvonne & Marley
Somerville
*Therapet
Volunteers*

Questions

Please share
any questions
in the chat as
we go along.

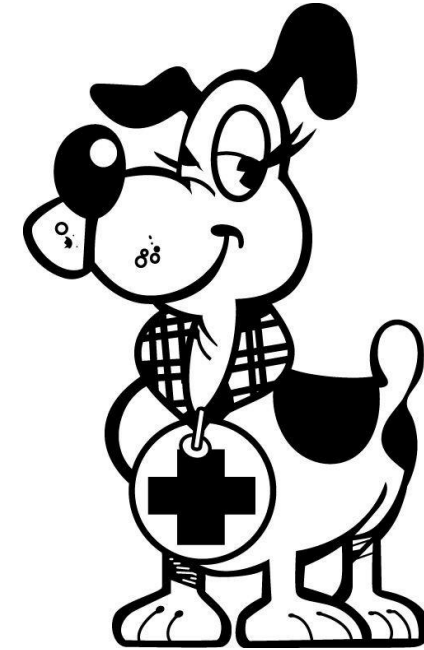


Connector

Which Marley best represents you today?

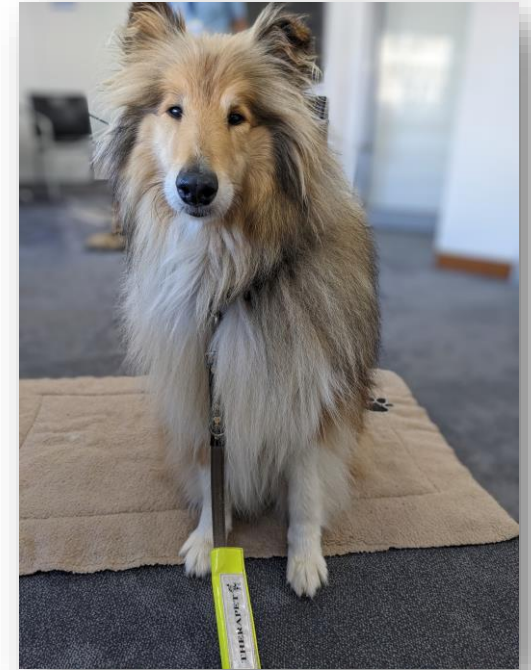


Type that number into the chat.



Mel Hughes, CEO
Canine Concern Scotland Trust

Therapet Visiting Programme



What is a Therapet?



Therapet



Assistance
Dogs

Therapet Visiting Programme



Care Homes

Prisons

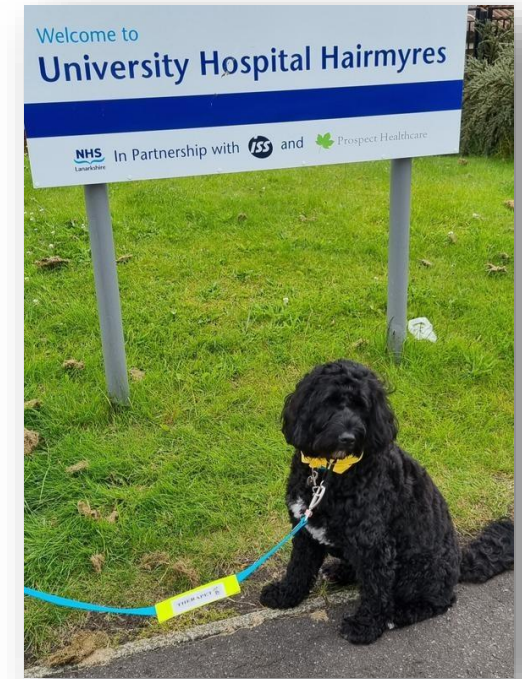
Workplaces



Airport

Libraries

Community Groups



Hospital Wards

Colleges and Universities

Hospices

Becoming a Volunteer

- Dog is assessed for health and suitability.
- Volunteering opportunities linked to your own availability.
- Visiting adult settings for a year before reassessment.
- A mixture of one-off visits and regular visiting commitments.



Reading with Dogs



Dogs in educational settings supporting children, young people and adults

For Scotland's learners, with Scotland's educators



Other School Visits



Caring for Dogs

HWB Groups

Charity Topic

Social Skills Group

Nurture Class





Niddrie Mill Primary, Edinburgh

Niddrie Mill Therapets



“It was lovely to see E interacting with Sylvie, it was like meeting a different child. She was so confident and comfortable when interacting with Sylvie and Katrina”
E’s teacher.



“She was so fluffy and so good. We loved playing hide and seek with her, and she made me feel happy. I really looked forward to seeing her.”

“I miss her and her fluff. She helped me 1 million times out of 10. She gave me confidence and her fluff made me feel calm and happy inside.”





Braes High School, Falkirk



NOVEMBER

2023

Reading with Jamie Senior Programme

I like reading with Jaime because it is helping me to be happy and it also gives me confidence to talk to others and Jaime is helping me with my amoshow.



"IT ENCOURAGES ME TO COME INTO SCHOOL. HE HELPS WHEN I FEEL ANXIOUS... JAMIE HELPS CALM ME DOWN, HE CAN HELP PEOPLE WITH EXAMS. I THINK PEOPLE FEEL BETTER AFTER SEEING JAMIE."

"IT'S NICE TO GET 1 TO 1 SUPPORT. ITS NICE TO READ WITH JAMIE THE DOG IN SCHOOL. SINCE READING WITH JAMIE THE DOG MY READING HAS BEEN GETTING BETTER."

BRAES BUDDIES

BRAES HIGH

Benefits of a Dog Visit

- Supports communication, social interaction and confidence.
- Can become a familiar companion who listens without judgement.
- Can provide emotional comfort and help to decrease anxiety.
- Teaches compassion towards and responsible behaviour around dogs.



Feedback from Participants

“R was selected as she has autism and really struggles in social settings. She avoided reading and would never read aloud in class. She is very low in confidence and mood, and often disengages and lacks focus. She had started to self-harm. She continues to read to Willow over break time and engages well. She will often talk to the dog and owner about her feelings. After being with Willow, she engages in class and will gladly read aloud. She is more engaged in texts and likes to choose novels to read.”

“Overall, a really positive experience.....The dogs (and owners) were brilliant.”

"Most significant development was seen with one P7 boy, who at first would not read out loud at all. By session 3, he was reading confidently out loud for the FIRST time in P7. Our 2 volunteers have been exceptional in every way - both understanding, empathetic and willing to adapt, sometimes at the very last minute. We can't thank them enough".

“The children were especially happy to see Finn again as they just love sitting and reading to him. His gentleness has a calming effect on them so that they relax and enjoy reading to him, which in front of their classmates they would not do. Gradually we can see them becoming more fluent in their reading we need more Therapets, especially as many children’s literacy has suffered due to the pandemic.”

Quotes from Learners

Her coat is so warm and fluffy. I love cuddling her while I am working.

I love Bessy!

Vance is so clever – he really listens to my stories.

(Before N5 Maths Exam)
OMG it is so amazing to see the dog – can we take her into the exam with us?



I loved seeing Ollie. It was the best day at school. He helped me stay calm when I was nervous about reading.

Things to Consider

Suitability and Health of Dog

Preparation of Learners

Appropriate Vet Cover

Public Liability Insurance

Risk Assessment

Allergies and Phobias

Volunteer Checks (PVG)

Volunteer Induction

Emergency / Safeguarding

Time and Length of Visit

Suitability of Space

Number of Learners/ Staff

For More Information:



info@canineconcernscotland.org.uk



<https://www.canineconcernscotland.org.uk/therapet>



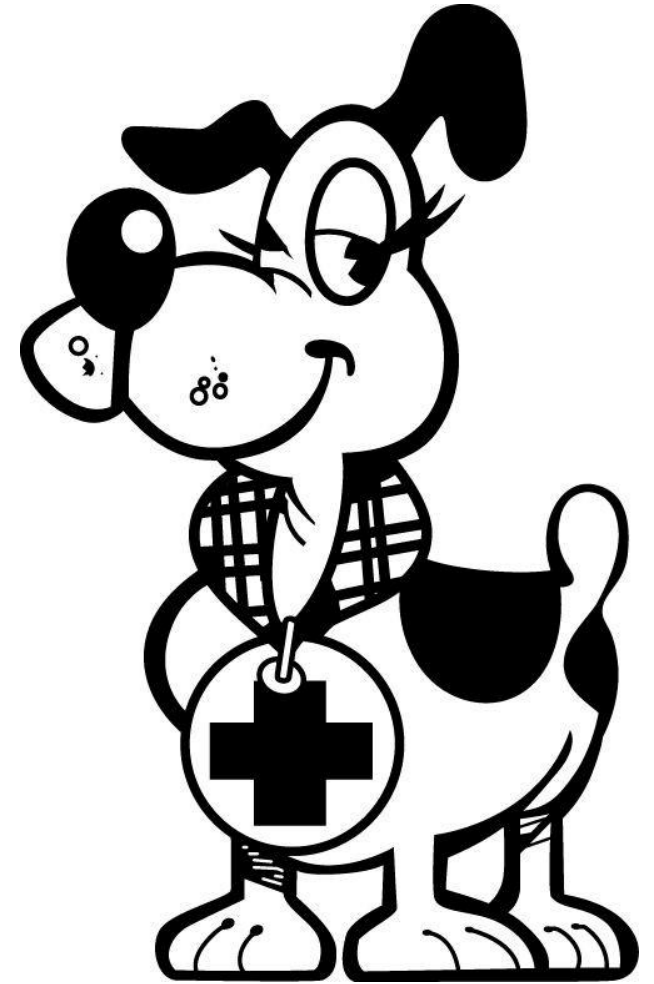
<https://twitter.com/TherapetC>



<https://www.facebook.com/TherapetsScotland/>

Questions

Any questions?



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Further Reading and Links



<https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/media/1935/bark-and-read-standards-of-practice.pdf>

<https://www.cfsg.org.uk/dog-safety/>

<https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/dog-training/safe-and-sound/>

<https://www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk/building-confidence/>

<https://www.bluecross.org.uk/advice/pets/wellbeing-and-care/pets-in-schools>

<https://www.learnwithdogstrust.org.uk/school-dogs/school%20dogs%20guide.pdf>

<https://www.scottishspca.org/animal-guardians>

<https://hub.careinspectorate.com/how-we-support-improvement/improvement-programmes-and-topics/animal-magic/>

Evaluation

Scan or click
the link to
complete the
evaluation



Question 6:
'Therapet
Webinar'

<https://tinyurl.com/EdScot23>

Thank you for Attending



Dogs in educational settings supporting children, young people and adults

For Scotland's learners, with Scotland's educators



Education Scotland

Denholm House

Almondvale Business Park

Almondvale Way

Livingston EH54 6GA

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For Scotland's learners, with Scotland's educators
Do luchd-ionnsachaidh na h-Alba, le luchd-foghlaim Alba