Bishop Ullathorne
Catholic School
Part of Holy Cross Catholic MAC

Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School
Leasowes Avenue, Coventry, West Midlands, CV3 6BH
Headteacher: Mrs S Boyle
Tel: 02476 414515 Email: BU-Admin@hccmac.co.uk
Web: www.bishopullathorne.co.uk

Thursday 12 November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to share some exciting news with you. Over the coming months, we will be welcoming Rufus, a friendly Cockapoo, into school as he begins his journey towards becoming a trained therapy dog.



Rufus will be working alongside Mrs Wilding, Ms Stundon and Miss Durkan, who will be supporting him through his training and helping him become accustomed to the busy and varied environment of school life. Initially, Rufus's visits will focus on basic training, building his confidence around students and staff, and learning how to remain calm and comfortable within the school setting.

Therapy dogs are increasingly being used in schools because of the positive impact they can have on students' emotional wellbeing. They can help children to feel calmer, reduce anxiety, encourage positive social interactions and provide valuable support for those who may be finding school challenging. Before any of these benefits can be explored, however, Rufus must first learn how to be safe, happy and confident within our school community.

We appreciate that every child is different. While many students will be excited to meet Rufus, we also recognise that some children may have allergies, phobias or concerns around dogs. The wellbeing of all students remains our priority, and we will carefully manage Rufus's introduction to school.

To help us plan effectively, we would be grateful if you could complete the short Microsoft Form below if your child has any allergies, concerns, fears or other circumstances that we should be aware of:

School Therapy Dog – Fill in form

Bishop Ullathorne
Catholic School
Part of Holy Cross Catholic MAC

Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School
Leasowes Avenue, Coventry, West Midlands, CV3 6BH
Headteacher: Mrs S Boyle
Tel: 02476 414515 Email: BU-Admin@hccmac.co.uk
Web: www.bishopullathorne.co.uk

At this stage, Rufus's contact with students will be carefully supervised and limited while he completes the early stages of his training. We will continue to review his progress and keep parents informed as his role develops.

We are very excited about welcoming Rufus to the Bishop Ullathorne family and look forward to sharing updates on his progress over the coming months.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Miss Durkan
Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Boyle
Headteacher