Lesson on keeping dogs under control to link with Key Stage 3

Main welfare aims

To encourage the students to consider the consequences of not keeping a dog under control for the owner, the wider community and the dog.

Curriculum links

Spoken Language. Pupils should be taught to:

• give well-structured descriptions and explanations and develop their understanding through speculating, hypothesising and exploring ideas
• participating in formal debates and structured discussions, summarising and/or building on what has been said

Citizenship. Pupils should explore:

• the nature of rules and laws and the justice system
• the ways in which citizens work together to improve their communities

Resources needed

• [gov.uk/control-dog-public](https://gov.uk/control-dog-public)
• [What does responsible look like? with Chris Packham](https://www.chrispackham.co.uk/what-does-responsible-look-like)
Introduction (20 minutes)

• On an interactive whiteboard show the Blue Cross website and explore what Blue Cross does. Ask the group if they think that everyone has the right to own a dog? Discuss. Explain that having a dog is a big responsibility and it needs to be considered carefully before you take one on.
• To help protect owners, communities and dogs there are a number of laws in place that owners need to be aware of and ensure they adhere to. Explain that an important part of Blue Cross work is education for pet owners, and today they’re going to be discussing the responsibilities of being a dog owner and the consequences if things go wrong.

Main (30 minutes)

• Split the class up into groups of no more than six - preferably three or four. Give each group a worksheet to answer.
• Play the dog scenario video. Pause at 1.25 to freeze on the questions, then play once the children have completed the worksheet.

Plenary (10 minutes)

• Pull the class together to discuss any different opinions after the summary from Chris and if they have changed their mind on anything they had discussed as a group.
Worksheet

What do you think about this story?

Do you think Lottie wanted to hurt the builder?

Who is to blame for the situation?

What do you think the consequences should be for Lottie’s owners and what should happen to Lottie?