



Dear Head teacher

We are writing to you to ask if you would support us in helping to bring awareness to your pupils of dog attacks on our postmen and women as it gets closer to the school holidays.

In raising awareness with schoolchildren and young adults, we may go some way to preventing future attacks and reducing injuries to our postal workers.

Perhaps you could use the following information as a topic at one of your assemblies before the summer break up.

Here are a few bullet points below that should help with your discussions about responsible dog ownership.

- There have been over 2,275 dog attacks on Royal Mail postmen and women across the UK during April 2017 - April 2018-some of these attacks have **led to permanent disabling injuries.**
- The highest percentage of those attacks (82%) are **where attacks happened at the door or in the garden.**
- **We love dogs at Royal Mail,** but we know that even the most placid of dogs can behave differently if they see someone they do not know approaching their home and they think they are protecting loved ones.
- Lots of dog attacks occur when dogs are alone in the garden or not supervised when Royal Mail is delivering.

So this is what we are asking the children to think about at your School as the school holidays start?

- Please keep your dog inside when mail is being delivered to your home.
- If the post person has a parcel for your house and knocks at the door make sure your dog is safely behind another door before you open the outside door to sign for a parcel.

- Speak to your parents/guardians about the number of dog attacks in Royal Mail last year, remember 2.275 people attacked - that's at least 7 people attacked by dogs every day.
- Try to understand that being attacked by a dog isn't always as you see in films or cartoons-its real and it hurts; it changes people's lives and some of the injuries are so bad that people don't return to work after an attack.
- Everyone is a **potential future dog owner** and if you have any **good ideas on how we can reduce dog attacks at Royal Mail**, send an e-mail into: stephen.allington@royalmail.com

Below is an A4 poster that I hope you will be able to display in school. This will prove useful information for all school holidays for the rest of the year.

If you would like us to attend your school to talk further about this issue then please contact xxxxxxxx

Thank you so much for all your help and support on this important topic

Yours sincerely

Xxxx

Royal Mail

