



National Capital Therapy Dogs, Inc.  
P.O. Box 234, Highland, Maryland 20777  
301.585.6283

### SUMMARY OF EXPECTATIONS: ANIMAL-ASSISTED READING PROGRAM

It is intended that the National Capital Therapy Dogs Inc (NCTD) will conduct an animal-assisted reading program (READ) at \_\_\_\_\_ .

The aim of the program will be to help improve the confidence and fluency of children's reading. The number and times of the reading sessions will be arranged from time to time. The program will be reviewed from time to time by the two parties and amended as necessary.

The School expects that:

- (a) NCTD will provide only teams that have received standard-based training and evaluation and in addition have qualified under the READ program;
- (b) Handlers and animals are appropriately dressed and identified;
- (c) Animals will be properly cleaned and groomed;
- (d) All handlers will comply with the School's volunteers' policies;
- (e) NCTD will appoint a volunteer to act as Program Coordinator and as the primary point of contact with the School;
- (f) NCTD will make every effort to provide teams according to the agreed schedule and to notify the On-site Coordinator promptly if a session has to be rescheduled or cancelled.

NCTD expects that:

- (a) The School will determine the criteria for participation and will select students according to these criteria;
- (b) Parental permission will be obtained for students selected for the program;
- (c) The School will designate a suitable place for READ sessions, and staff will escort each student to and from such place;
- (d) The School will either provide a staff member or volunteer to sit in on each session, or alternatively ensure that the session is in view of a third person;
- (e) Students will wash or sanitize their hands before and after each session;
- (f) The school will nominate a staff member as On-site Coordinator and as the primary point of contact with NCTD.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_