



## 🐾 PAWS TO PLAY 🐾

### PROFESSIONAL PET ASSISTED THERAPY

**Abbey is a 2-year-old Golden Retriever. She is a spirited and fun-loving female whose playfulness brings laughter and joy to all who know her. Abbey loves to play fetch with her ball.**

**She has a great deal of energy to share!**

### 🐾 Program Proposal 🐾

#### 🐾 Goals:

- To offer support and a non-judgmental presence to students at The Prout School
- To help students recognize the value of treating all living beings with care and respect
- To help students “de-stress” especially before exams start



## **Guidelines:**

- The pet therapy will take place in a group setting and on an individual basis as determined by the school leadership and pet facilitator
- Participation by students will be by choice; a sign-up sheet will be available for students prior to the pet therapy team's visit



## **Ethics:**

- Therapy pet will be up to date on vaccines (proof of vaccinations provided) and will be clean and groomed for the sessions and will be insured
- Therapy pet will be with the pet facilitator at all times during the sessions and on the leash until agreed on by the pet facilitator and school adult present within an enclosed room
- School leadership will be informed if the pet is not up for the visit and the visit will be rescheduled
- Therapy pet's safety and comfort during the sessions are primary; the pet will set the pace for interaction with the students
- The pet facilitator will read the pet's body language and observe the student interaction with the pet to determine comfort levels of enjoyment, anxiety, or discomfort for either the pet or student; if interaction is not pleasant and enjoyable or becomes unsafe for either the pet or the student, the session will stop immediately
- Students will be instructed on how to greet and interact with the pet at the beginning of the session