Dear Parents / Carers

As you may be aware, Mr Williams has a condition called Multiple Sclerosis (Relapse Remission), he was diagnosed provisionally in 1998 which was later confirmed in 1999. Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a condition of the central nervous system, which includes the brain and spinal cord, becoming damaged.

Mr Williams is managing his condition with an assistance dog. Lucy is his current dog and is highly trained to support him in a number of ways, depending on the severity of his symptoms.

One unfortunate side effect of Mr Williams condition is the possibility of seizures. Lucy is able to detect the onset of these before they happen, giving Mr Williams time to prevent or control the seizure using medication, keeping him safe and reducing the chance of seizure and possible injury.

Mr Williams is an occasional wheelchair user, Lucy is also trained to open doors, push buttons, access his personal belongings and fetch and carry things as needed.

Oasis is an inclusive organisation and aims to support all its staff members so that they are able to work and teach no matter what issues they are facing. It is now crucial that Lucy accompanies Mr Williams to school every day to support him with his medical needs. Lucy is highly trained, and disciplined, and will focus soley on Mr Williams, despite whatever is going on around her. She is a kind and gentle dog, but should not be ‘fussed over’ or petted by pupils and staff, as she will be working during her time in school. Pupils will need to take instruction from Mr Williams on this.

In order to ensure all pupils are comfortable with Lucy being in Mr Williams’ classes, we need to be aware of pupils with allergies, or fear of dogs, who may need to move classes as a result of Lucy coming into the academy. **Please can you return the reply slip below** **by Friday 5th November** and feel free to call the school or email hello@oasisbrightstowe.org if you have any queries.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Lucy the Assistance Dog for Mr Williams**

I give consent for my child to be in class with Lucy and they have no allergies or fear of dogs.

I do not give consent for my child to be in class with Lucy the dog.

Student’s Name: ………………………………………………………………………………………

Tutor Group: …………………………………………………………………………………………….