

Girl, 6, savaged by dog

RUSSELL CLAYDON

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POLICE are today trying to trace the owners of a dog which attacked a six-year-old girl outside a play area.

The incident happened after she asked to stroke the animal in a park on Hales Barn Road in Haverhill around 9.45am on Saturday.

The girl had been playing with her brother and sister when a couple walked past with a gold spaniel-type dog. The children asked to stroke the dog but it bit the girl on the face and the children ran home.

The owners have been described as a white man with dark, spiked hair and a woman who had shoulder length blonde hair. The dog was between one and a half and two feet high and was called Jake.

The girl has been described as not seriously injured.

Anyone with information is asked to call PC Victoria Anthistle at Haverhill Police on 01284 774100 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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Should not your headline read "Girl BITTEN by dog" and if the children asked to stroke the dog and went towards it, I don't think it's correct to say the dog attacked the girl. I do hope she recovers soon but please keep your headlines in perspective!

G Rumpy, IPSWICH

I am sorry for the girl, they asked as well, knowone can ask more. It is interesting to note that the dog was a spaniel type and not the architypal Staffy or Rottie involved in this type of incident, I think that this enforces that it is the Deed and not the dog is overriding to alienating "specific breeds of dogs"

Richard ,

G Rumpy - couldn't agree with you more. I also hope that she recovers soon but the owners must now be scared stiff that they are going to lose their pet. You never know how a dog is going to react to strangers so always best if you don't let other people near them.

Maggie May, Felixstowe

I agree with Maggie. It is not always predictable how a dog will react to a stranger. We have a black labrador, who is a lovely affectionate pet, but is very nervous and can be tempermental if he is scared. Whilst most people would not approach a staffie/pitbull/rockie etc (i have no problems with these types of dogs, so please don't think I am being discriminative), many people just come up to my lab to make a fuss and don't even ask if it is ok, they just assume that all labs are gentle soft creatures. As most people know, all dogs can be unpredictable. Hope the little girl soon recovers and it doesn't put her off these lovely but sometimes unpredictable creatures.

jacqui purcell

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