

# Part 1: Investigation Phase

## Timeline & Development Schedule:

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## 2. Problem Outline:

#### Purpose of the Database:

The primary objective of the database is to provide a structured and efficient way to track therapy dogs, their owners, assessments, and related information for the GSG therapy dog program.

#### Objectives:

* To streamline the nomination and assessment process for therapy dogs.
* To maintain accurate records of dogs and their handlers.
* To facilitate easy retrieval of data related to dog assessments and incidents.
* To support staff in effectively managing the therapy dog program and improving student support.

## 3. Problem Description:

#### Feedback from the Client:

The Learning Support Coordinator emphasized the need for an organized system to handle the nomination and assessment of therapy dogs, highlighting issues with the current manual process that is inefficient and prone to errors. The coordinator seeks a user-friendly database that allows for easy updates and queries.

#### Required Features of the Database:

* A table to store dog details, including name, breed, age, and special considerations.
* A table for handler information, including contact details and emergency contacts.
* A table for assessments that track each dog's evaluation status and results.
* Relationships between dogs and handlers, assessments, and any incidents.
* Capability to track incidents or issues reported during the therapy dog program.
* A user interface that allows for easy data entry and retrieval.

#### Possible Information Users May Want to Retrieve:

* List of all therapy dogs and their handlers.
* Assessment results for specific dogs.
* Incident reports involving therapy dogs.
* Statistics on assessments (e.g., average scores, number of incidents).
* Summary of handler contact information.

#### How the Database Will Handle Each Requirement:

* **Entity Relationships:** By establishing clear relationships between tables (e.g., dogs, handlers, assessments), the database will allow for complex queries to be made efficiently.
* **Normalization:** Ensuring data is normalized to 3NF will eliminate redundancy and improve data integrity.
* **Data Integrity:** Use of primary and foreign keys will ensure relationships are maintained, and constraints will enforce data validity.
* **Query Functionality:** Users will be able to execute various SQL queries to extract and manipulate data as needed.