

Preparing for training school

Pupdate 3

Archie is perfecting his skills



Hello, it's Jackie and Andy here, Archie's Puppy Walkers. We have been preparing Archie for Guide Dogs Training School.

It's incredible how far Archie has come since he first came to live with us. He has grown into an extremely handsome dog and is a joy to be around. In the last couple of months Archie has really matured and we know he's ready to take on any challenges that training school will bring.

Overcoming challenges

In order to prepare Archie for the next chapter, we've been refining everything he has learnt so far. He's now confident in demonstrating all of his basic commands and can switch between them easily. We've noticed that praising Archie with words, such as 'good boy' is almost as motivating as using food treats and we have been using this technique more often in training.

It's great to see Archie's patience improving as he grows older. He's now a lot calmer around food and waits for the whistle sound willingly before enjoying his dinner.

Archie is such a sociable pup; he loves saying hello and playing with all his puppy friends every time we go to Puppy School! It takes him a little while to settle down and get into the working routine but once he does, he's a star pupil. Recently, we've been working on the 'stand' command which is a valuable skill to master for when Archie is partnered with his future owner.

Exploring the world

As you can imagine, we recently had to alter our training methods with Archie due to the social distancing guidelines put in place to help stop the spread of coronavirus. However shortly after your last Pupdate, we were able to introduce Archie to different modes of public transport, including buses, trains and even the Tube! He settled nicely under our feet and had a snooze during the journey. Archie occasionally lifted his head and looked at us if he heard a strange sound but once given the reassurance continued to daydream. Plus when we were able to take Archie on frequent car trips, they didn't seem to faze him at all!







(Continued overleaf)



See how Archie has grown in his own video: guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-archie

What's next

We imagine Archie would suit being partnered with someone who is active as Archie likes being on his feet and going on different adventures. In addition, someone who already has experience with owning a guide dog would be a good match for Archie as they could give him the guidance he sometimes needs. It's been a pleasure puppy walking Archie; we are very proud of what he has achieved so far and wish him best of luck in the future!

Thank you so much for sponsoring Archie. Look out for your next Pupdate to see how he is progressing at training school.



Next stop for Archie - training school

Your donations can help to pay for an 'Off to School Kit', which costs £50 for a puppy moving into their first stage of training.

An 'Off to School Kit' includes:

A reflective sleeve for the lead, helping the public recognise a guide dog in training

£18 A harness handle

127 A brown training harness – the iconic symbol of a training guide dog

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