



Guide
Dogs

Sponsor
a Puppy



Archie

Training commences

Pupdate 4

Archie is on his way to becoming a guide dog



“ Hello, it’s Sam here and I am Archie’s new Trainer. ”

I have been a puppy Trainer at Guide Dogs for about three years now. I’ve trained 28 puppies so far and can’t wait to continue training more! I love how rewarding it is training pups; they really brighten your day and make everyone they come into contact with happy.

Archie is a lovely chap

Due to COVID-19, Archie came to training school a bit later than he usually would.

Originally, we’d planned for him to come to us as lockdown started, so instead he stayed with Puppy Walkers Jackie and Andy – Archie is a lovely chap so it was a pleasure for them to keep him for a little bit longer.

Archie's enthusiasm for learning new things

Although lockdown meant that Archie was unable to visit indoor places, he had a lot of fun going on free runs in the woods and visiting different scenic locations. This gave him the opportunity to practise his recall and lead work. Although the introduction of face masks can be a novel thing for younger pups to experience, Archie hasn't been fazed at all.

Once lockdown began to ease, Puppy Walkers Jackie and Andy were able to meet up with fellow Puppy Walkers in their gardens. They created a DIY outside café, which meant Archie was able to practise his skills and simulate how he would act when he visits cafés in the future. Archie behaved perfectly and settled under the table while relaxing.

(Continued overleaf)



See how Archie has grown in his own video:

guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-archie

Introduction to training school

Archie has now been introduced to training school and is learning new important skills that will help him on his journey towards becoming a fully-fledged guide dog. Here, Archie is learning a variety of different things, including an introduction to his harness, and how to lead someone with a visual impairment without pulling. Archie will also be practising stopping at kerbs and steps and avoiding street obstacles! I'm most looking forward to taking Archie off-site for a free run, it's really brilliant to see pups run like the wind! I'm sure Archie will pick up all these new skills quickly as he loves to learn new things.



I look forward to updating you on how Archie has progressed in training school in his next Pupdate.

The matching process

Every person and dog is unique, so matching a guide dog to an owner is a complex and carefully managed process. Our trainers take into account a persons needs including lifestyle, walking speed and height.

Once a match has been made, our trainers spend several weeks training the guide dog owner and dog together, learning their common routes and making sure their partnership is a success.



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