



Guide
Dogs

Sponsor
a Puppy



Bailey

Bailey's started
training school

Pupdate 4

Bailey

is on his way to becoming a guide dog



“ Hello, it’s Amy here and I am Bailey’s new trainer. ”

I am currently a trainee Guide Dogs Mobility Specialist, working alongside trainer Jackie. The thing I love most about my job is watching the development of the dogs. When pups first come in, they often need more attention and nurturing, and when you see them progress and come out of the other side it is really rewarding.

Bailey is a lovely dog

Bailey has settled in really well to training school. He’s adapted to the change and has enjoyed spending time with his fosterers in the evenings and weekends. Whatever challenge I’ve given Bailey he’s always very sure of himself, which is great in a brand-new environment. Nothing seems to faze him!

Lately we have concentrated on loose lead walking and introduced the brown harness to him. We have recently gone to garden centres to see how he coped with the harness on. I'm pleased to say he adapted well and walked up and down steps very calmly.

Bailey's joy for learning new things

Bailey is a very handsome pup! He's completely eager to learn. Whatever you ask of him he does, and he always looks like he enjoys his work. Bailey's tail is always wagging – he's a happy chap. I've just introduced Bailey to curb training, and I'm sure he'll take it all in his stride.

Instead of an obstacle course, I've been getting Bailey used to avoiding natural things in the environment. For example, if we're walking along a path and approaching a bin, we would encourage Bailey to help us avoid it. This is something he'll naturally do when he is a qualified guide dog.

(Continued overleaf)



See how Bailey has grown in his own video:

guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-bailey

Introduction to training school

Bailey's had a fabulous start to training school and loves free running in the paddock onsite. The only challenge I've faced with him is that he is a soft toy destroyer! He loves to rip into his soft toys and blankets. He has a cheeky personality and looks very pleased with himself when he has been given a soft toy, but he can't be left alone with one, so I make sure to have him supervised when he has a soft toy as a reward.

Everyone here at the training school loves Bailey, he's a very sweet and affectionate boy and a joy to be around. I can't wait to see him continue to progress.

I look forward to updating you on how Bailey is getting on at 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 person's 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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