



Bailey is enjoying training school!

Pupdate 5

# Bailey

# is on his way to becoming a guide dog



Hello it's Amy here,
Bailey's Trainer.
I'm pleased to tell
you that Bailey is
progressing very
nicely at training
school!

Despite challenges due to lockdown restrictions earlier this year, Bailey has continued to learn and practise new skills. I am really proud of how far he has come since he first arrived at training school.

#### **Bailey's training**

The core skills Bailey has recently been focusing on are food manners, chin rests, platform training, and stationing. Stationing involves asking a dog to go to a designated area, such as a bed or a raised platform and having them relax there until they're told they can leave. This is particularly useful when having routine health checks, as it keeps the dog stable and calm.

Bailey is doing well in learning skills but can sometimes lose a bit of focus. To combat this, we've been doing short sharp sessions which have really helped with his concentration. It's hard to say anything bad about Bailey at all!

#### Life at training school

Bailey is currently staying with new boarders when not at training school. He stays with a family that have two young children, and he's settled in nicely. His current routine consists of being dropped off at training school in the morning. I'll then work on his core skills in the training room. Afterwards I'll take Bailey on a free run which he absolutely loves.



Bailey is a very sweet boy who picks things up quickly. Ultimately Bailey is eager to please. You can see in his face that he's very enthusiastic, especially when you teach him new things. The thing I love about him is that he's so excited about his sessions – his tail is always wagging. He loves to trot around the room enthusiastically.

## Taking in new surroundings

Due to lockdown restrictions earlier this year, I've been unable to take Bailey to public places such as supermarkets, cafés and shops.

(Continued overleaf)









To combat this. I created a makeshift café onsite at training school, and invited my colleague and her dog-in-training to come in and sit socially distanced away from Bailey and me. This was great as it allowed Bailey to practise skills that he will eventually use in public areas.

In the next few weeks, Bailey will be assessed to see if he is qualified to go to advanced training. From here he will move training schools and learn all the vital skills which should prepare him to become a qualified guide dog. Advanced training includes work in both suburban and urban areas and will teach Bailey how to navigate different routes and scenarios. It will be very exciting to see what Bailey learns next! It has been lovely training Bailey, and I have no doubts that he will progress well in his next stages.



Bailey is a joy to be around. Look out for his next Pupdate in October.

## See how much Bailey has grown

We have been taking pictures of Bailey since he was born so you can see just how much he's changed. Please visit guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-bailey and if you'd like to hear more from Sponsor a Puppy, why not visit our social media pages.











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