

# Oscar

GUIDE  
DOGS



**Pupdate 3**

**Mastering skills**

**Preparing for training school**

**SPONSOR  
A PUPPY**







**Hello, it's Glyn here, Oscar's Puppy Walker. He will soon be going off to Guide Dogs Training School and I've been busy getting him ready.**

Oscar has become such a confident and reliable dog and I'm so proud of my big, beautiful boy! I feel he is ready for the challenges that training school will bring as he loves having a job to do. I can't wait to see him proudly wearing his training harness.

## A new friend

Recently, another trainee guide dog has become part of our family; a little black Labrador called Skye, who Oscar absolutely adores. She might be much smaller than Oscar but she rules the roost. It's been quite the experience having them both at home, but also twice as much fun!

## Snow puppy

Our Puppy Training Supervisor recently organised a trip to an indoor ski centre, the perfect opportunity to introduce Oscar to snow! It's crucial that we expose the pups to as many different sights and sounds as possible to build their confidence in all environments. Oscar wasn't fazed at all by the



snowboarders and skiers whizzing past and even had a good play in the snow!

## Overcoming challenges

Alongside the support of my Puppy Training Supervisor, I've taught Oscar skills that will be valuable to his future owner. For example, 'touch', when he puts his nose against my hand on command. This will enable his future owner to locate him easily. He can also 'find the chair', where

he locates empty seats in shops, cafes or at the park by resting his chin on them.

I'm pleased to say that Oscar's patience has greatly improved and he's learnt to take life at a slower pace.

(Continued overleaf)



I can now browse shops, have a coffee and go into changing rooms knowing Oscar will wait patiently for me. Now, I am working on improving Oscar's dog distraction as he can lose focus easily around other dogs, especially if they are being vocal.

### Looking to the future

Whoever ends up with Oscar as their guide dog will have hit the jackpot! He loves having a job to do and copes well in busy environments, so would be

perfect for someone travelling to work every day.

Oscar has never failed to make me laugh and truly is my best friend. I feel so grateful to have had such an incredible companion as my first trainee guide dog puppy and I will miss him dearly.

Soon Oscar will be starting training school, I'm so proud to have been a part of his journey. Look out for your next Pupdate in October to see how he's getting on!

## Next stop for Oscar – 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:

£5

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

£18

A harness handle

£27

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

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