

Training commences

Pupdate 4

Rosie has started training school



Hello, it's Emily here and I am Rosie's new Trainer.

Rosie will be learning a variety of behaviours and tasks during her time in early training. I will introduce Rosie to the brown training harness and will teach her how to guide someone with a visual impairment. She will learn how to stop at kerbs, negotiate obstacles and find objects. I am looking forward to seeing Rosie's personality and confidence grow throughout her early training!

Rosie is a fun-loving pup

Rosie has joined training school a little bit later than she normally would, due to delays caused by COVID-19.

Therefore, she stayed with her Puppy Raiser Edith for a bit longer. Rosie is such a fun pup and loves to play a game of fetch. One of her favourite things to do was chasing after a bright orange toy that Edith would throw on their free runs together.

Preparing for training school

During her time with Edith, Rosie learnt a lot of vital skills that are helpful for her on her journey towards becoming a fully-fledged guide dog.

Edith took Rosie to the railway station to help her get familiar with the sights and sounds. They sat and watched lots of trains stop to pick up passengers and then set off again. Rosie seemed a bit disappointed that they were not going to get on any of the trains, which shows that she should be great when reintroduced to using public transport. Rosie was not bothered by the noise of the trains at all, which is a great sign of confidence.

(Continued overleaf)









See how Rosie has grown in her own video:
guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-rosie

Introduction to training school

Now Rosie is settling into life at Guide Dogs Training School and has a lot of exciting experiences to look forward to. With COVID-19 restrictions easing, I will have an opportunity to reintroduce Rosie to situations that she has not had in recent months, such as visiting shops and cafés and travelling on public transport. I am most looking forward to teaching Rosie how to avoid obstacles in these environments. This is a fun technique that pups usually enjoy a lot, and it will challenge Rosie's mind following her basic training in the last year.

I look forward to updating you on how Rosie has progressed at training school in her 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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