



Guide  
Dogs

Sponsor  
a Puppy

# Ruby

Ruby is a  
confident pup

Pupdate 3

# Thank you

## for sponsoring Ruby



**“ Hello, it’s Bailey here, Ruby’s Puppy Raiser. I’ve been preparing Ruby for Guide Dogs Training School. ”**

I’ve taken over Ruby’s puppy raising as my sister Scout has gone to university. Luckily, we are a family of puppy raisers so there’s always someone on hand to train Ruby! The best thing about being a Puppy Raiser is being able to help people with visual impairments have independence and helping out in the community.

### **Adjusting Ruby’s training**

Ruby’s recall skills have massively improved; she’s become a lot better at coming back when called. Recently I walked Ruby to the vet for a routine check, and I could see the difference in her ability to stay focussed and ignore distractions such as other dogs. Previously dog distraction was what Ruby found most difficult, as she’s a sociable pup! To help combat this I’ve been using positive reinforcement to keep her concentrating. Each time Ruby doesn’t get distracted, I reward her with a treat. She’s very food driven which has helped a lot!

Most dogs can be a bit jumpy around loud noises such as trains and building work. However, we've never had any problems with Ruby. She was even calm during fireworks night! Her confidence is lovely to see and I'm sure it will come in handy when she experiences new things at training school.

## Visiting new places

I try to avoid busier locations when taking Ruby out and about due to Covid-19. We've tried to teach Ruby that it's best to keep a distance from other people when in shops and supermarkets. So it's handy to teach her early on in case she needs to use these skills with her future owner.

There are three main places around where we live which Ruby loves to go. We have two big fields which are perfect for practising recall, and a local woodland. Ruby loves going into the woods as she enjoys getting muddy!

## Future plans

I'm currently fine-tuning skills with Ruby to prepare her for training school. She has been making great progress, and has already mastered whistle training and responding to commands. I've also been teaching Ruby how to get used to crossing roads, which will help to give her a head start at training school.

(Continued overleaf)



See how Ruby has grown in her own video:

[guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-ruby](https://guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-ruby)



It's been lovely to see how much her confidence has grown in the past year. Ruby is the third dog we've raised as a family, and I'd like to take on another puppy in the future. The thing I'll miss most about Ruby is the chilled-out moments I have with her. She'll often put her head on my knee when we watch TV which is lovely. I have no doubt that she'll do a fantastic job at training school and go on to become a life-changer.

**Thank you so much for sponsoring Ruby. Look out for Ruby's next Pupdate in June!**



## Next stop for Ruby – training school

Your donations could go towards helping pay for costs of a puppy moving to training school.

### Training school items could include:

**£8** A collar for a working guide dog.

**£18** A harness handle.

**£25** An hour's training for a guide dog.



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