

Ollie'sThird Pupdate

As Ollie continues to progress through the puppy raising stage, we've been in touch with his Puppy Raiser, Phil, one last time to find out how they've been getting on and what they're doing to help prepare him for the next stage. Phil told us that Ollie has been making lovely progress with his training and that he's mostly doing all that's expected of a pup of his age.

Ollie's lead work is now of a good standard, and he's been working hard to perfect this. When he's calm and relaxed, Ollie walks on a lovely loose lead and doesn't pull much. He's great in busy situations, such as markets, supermarkets and shopping centres and his favourite thing to do is lie flat on the floor and watch the world go by. Phil said that when he's ready to carry on shopping, Ollie gets up and they move on. When in cafés, Ollie is well behaved and will settle nicely under a chair, but only after he's cleared the floor nearby of any crumbs!

Phil told us that Ollie loves using lifts, no matter what type, and always remains calm and focused even when other passengers get in or out. He's also learnt to go up stairs at a calm and steady pace, but they're still working on coming down steadily as he does tend to rush a little. Ollie now travels on buses and trains regularly and is very good at boarding both forms of transport and settling whilst on board.

At the moment, Phil said that their main focus is on Ollie's dog distraction – he just finds other dogs too interesting and hard to resist, but he is improving all the time. Ollie is now very good at ignoring birds and tends to pay no attention to larger animals, such as cows and horses. Despite being distracted by other dogs on walks occasionally, Ollie has very good recall when he is off the lead.

Ollie loves to play with his fellow local Guide Dogs' puppies, and they have some future play dates in the diary. We hope you have enjoyed Ollie's latest pupdate and following him through the puppy raising stage of his training. We will be in touch again soon to celebrate Ollie's birthday with you, and we'll also let you know when he's made the move to 'big school.'