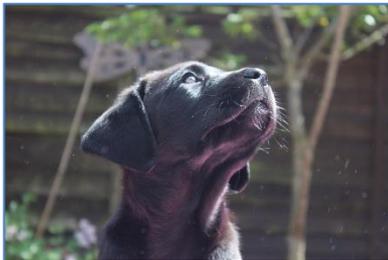


# Jack

## Puppy Partner – Bradley Stoke Town Council



**It starts with a puppy.**



Thank you for enabling Dogs for Good to support and train a puppy. The next twelve months will be crucial in Jack's training. Learning all about the world around them, our young puppies must become obedient, calm and confident dogs if they are to become a fully-trained assistance dog.

Even at such a young age, Jack will start to show some of the characteristics needed in a fully trained dog: confidence, an interest in people and in playing. When a puppy is chosen for the scheme, they are introduced to their puppy socialiser, who they will live with for around twelve months. Our puppy socialisers are a wonderful group of volunteers who will give their puppy lots of love and security, and in return get lots of laughs and rewards. Most importantly, they provide each puppy with lots of experience of the world around them.

However, until the puppies have had their full set of inoculations, trips out mean that their puppy socialisers have to carry them everywhere to lessen the chances of infection. Then, for the next couple of weeks, walks are deliberately kept very short, sometimes simply to the end of the road and back- young bones need time to develop slowly to avoid any joint damage. Puppy socialisers will follow a structured routine with the guidance and support from their dedicated Puppy Coordinator, to make sure early training is done correctly. Shirley will take Jack out every day – maybe picking up children from school, going to the local bus or train station, or the supermarket for the weekly shop. Thanks to the green training jacket all our puppies are given, they are granted access to public places. Puppies are naturally very inquisitive and boxes and bags are just begging to be explored, so Shirley will have to keep a sharp eye on what is lying around!

It's also important to make sure puppies get regular undisturbed rest periods and we encourage our puppy socialisers to use the dog crates for this purpose. Puppies soon understand that this is their special place and are very happy to settle down on a nice soft blanket with perhaps a cuddly toy for company, and get some well-earned sleep! All our puppy socialisers are very committed and give their puppies endless time, love and attention, ensuring they have the best possible start towards becoming fully trained assistance dogs and that they are confident, happy and social dogs ready for the next stage of their development.

Jack has an exciting year ahead, with lots to learn and plenty of love and cuddles with his new family. It is early days and we cannot predict how his personality and behaviour will develop, but with the love and support of Shirley, her family and the team here at Dogs for Good, he has every chance of success.

**Find out more.....** See more about our work, our partners and the people we are helping on our website. [www.dogsforgood.org](http://www.dogsforgood.org)

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