



# Ability Dogs 4 Young People



## Puppy Parent Application Form

***There is some information about being a puppy parent on page 2.***

Interested? You can send an email to [info@abilitydogs4yp.org.uk](mailto:info@abilitydogs4yp.org.uk), call us on 01983 216241 or complete this form:

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Postcode: ..... Email: .....

Contact phone numbers: .....

***Please tell us more about your household:***

Children & ages: .....

Do you work, and if so what are your working hours: .....

How many hours would the puppy be left on its own? .....

Do you have a car? ..... Can you use it everyday? .....

Do you have any other dogs?: Please give their ages & breeds: .....

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Are they friendly with other dogs & puppies? .....

Can you leave them (so you can train a puppy)? .....

Do you have any other pets? Please tell me about them: .....

.....

Do you have a puppy safe garden? Please describe it: .....

.....

Anything else you feel is relevant to your application: .....

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***Please return this form to:***

Ability Dogs 4 Young People IoW  
3 Howard Close, Niton, Isle of Wight, PO38 2EB

**More information overleaf**

## More Information About Becoming a Puppy Parent

At Ability Dogs 4 Young People, we recognise the importance of early socialisation and education of our puppies and the vital role Puppy Parents play. Puppies live with their first Puppy Parent from eight weeks old, and these volunteers, working closely with our Puppy Supervisor, provide the first 6-9 months of basic training and socialisation.

At 9-12 months old they move to different Puppy Parents, who continue the socialisation and training. Living in two homes provides our puppies with diversity of experience and helps them prepare for the training ahead. They start their advanced training with our Ability Dog Trainers at about 18 months old and continue to live with volunteers. We place each fully trained Ability Dog with a disabled young person when they are about two years old.

The aim of puppy parenting is to produce a young dog that is socially well behaved, friendly and responsive to its handler. It is also important that the young dog is at ease in all environments, including town conditions, is relaxed and confident when using all types of transport and learns an acceptable standard of behaviour on the lead. As each puppy is an individual and your Puppy Training Supervisor is always on hand to give you lots of help.

Puppy parenting is fun and enjoyable for all the family. In return for helping us with a puppy, we hope you will gain the satisfaction of knowing you have played an important role in a life changing partnership. Hopefully you will enjoy learning new skills and the opportunity to be part of a team.

We provide support to all our Puppy Parents, with regular home visits and weekly puppy classes. We supply food, equipment and we cover all vet bills. We can help with sundry expenses and mileage to and from puppy classes and the vets. We arrange holiday cover for your puppy, whenever needed.



Although no experience is necessary, in general to be a Puppy Parent you need to:

- Live on the Isle of Wight and be able to attend puppy classes every Wednesday morning and allow regular home visits by our Puppy Supervisor.
- Be away from the puppy for no more than 2-4 hours per day, depending on the age of the puppy. Part-time working may be considered.
- Be over 18 years old, and any children within the home should ideally be over the age of 4 years old and in full-time education.
- Be able to dedicate time to training and socialising your puppy on a daily basis. This includes experiencing busy towns, traffic, train stations, buses, shops, crowded and rural areas on a regular basis. You must be able to provide your puppy with regular contact with adults, children, other dogs and cats.

- Be reasonably fit and strong to, either carry a young puppy or control a strong young dog.
- Have a puppy safe and secure garden directly accessible from your house.
- Have access to a vehicle at all times.
- Any pets must be of a suitable temperament and happy with a puppy in 'their' home. If you have pet dogs, ideally no more than two and at least two years old.
- All pet dogs must be healthy and reasonably well-behaved, and you must be able to leave them to provide the one-to-one training and socialisation required by our puppies.

**Can you welcome an Ability Dog puppy into your home and help with our positive and reward-based training?**

