



Help us create more magical moments in schools



“When a child who struggles with confidence sits with Pickle and finds their voice, it’s incredibly special to see.”

Cathy Shipton, PAT Volunteer
(known for playing Nurse Duffy
in BBC’s *Casualty*)



The magic of a Pets As Therapy visit

As you know, PAT Dogs bring much more than wagging tails to the classroom.

Spending time with a calm, friendly dog can help children feel relaxed and supported. For some pupils, it’s the first time they feel confident enough to read aloud. For others, it’s a moment of calm in an otherwise difficult day.

Across the UK, **Pets As Therapy teams visit more than 2,000 schools**, helping children feel relaxed, supported and ready to learn.

But thousands of schools are still waiting for a visit.

With your support, we can bring more magical moments to thousands more children.

2,000 schools currently receive PAT visits

1000s of children are gaining confidence through reading

1000s more schools across the UK could benefit

Our goal

To make sure every school that wants a PAT visit can have one



Our Read2Dogs scheme

Through our Read2Dogs scheme, children read to a friendly dog who listens patiently and never judges, interrupts or corrects them. It’s a simple idea that can transform confidence and life at school.



One of our volunteers, Cathy Shipton, visits Buckinghamshire schools with her dog Pickle.

Pickle is an excellent listener. Children who might normally feel nervous reading aloud often relax when telling a story to a friendly dog. The pressure disappears, confidence grows and reading becomes something to enjoy.

Sometimes Pickle even falls asleep during the story, which the children find hilarious.

With 2026 being the National Year of Reading, PAT is proud to help more children discover the joy of books.

Fundraise for PAT

Could your school help more children benefit from PAT visits?

Unfortunately, there is a substantial ongoing cost to recruit, assess, insure and support the volunteers and pets who make school visits possible.

That's why we're asking the schools we already visit to consider supporting us through a **simple fundraising activity or donation**.

Even small contributions, when all added together, can help us reach thousands more children.

3 fun ideas

Read with a PAT Dog

For this reading marathon, children are sponsored to take part in a reading challenge.

Classes could aim to read for a certain number of minutes each day or work together to reach a collective reading target.

The highlight would be reading to your visiting PAT Dog. We bet it will enjoy listening to your stories!

Paws around the playground

For this sponsored walk, pupils complete laps of the playground or school field.

Your visiting PAT Dog may even be able to join the walk for part of the route or meet friends at the finish line.

Pawsome non-uniform day

Use your imagination and enjoy a dog-themed non-uniform day.

Pupils could wear:

- a pair of fun dog ears
- paw print clothing
- something featuring their favourite cartoon dog

It's an easy way to raise funds while celebrating the joy that therapy dogs bring to your school.



How your support helps

- £28** covers our costs to support a PAT Volunteer for a whole year, helping them bring moments of magic in schools, as well as hospitals and care homes.
- £91** helps us to recruit a new volunteer and assess their pet, creating a brand-new PAT visiting team.
- £730** funds training for 10 new assessors, who will ensure all PAT Pets have the right temperament for visits.

Every pound helps us create more moments of comfort, companionship and joy



Recognition for your school

Schools that fundraise for Pets As Therapy will receive:

- ✓ A Pets As Therapy Supporter Certificate
- ✓ A window sticker showing your school supports PAT
- ✓ Digital badges and graphics for your website
- ✓ Recognition as a PAT School Supporter on our website and social media



Thank you

Your school already plays a special role in helping children experience the joy of spending time with a PAT Dog. With your support, we can make sure many more children across the UK experience the same magical moments.

Because sometimes **one friendly dog can change a child's whole day.**

For more information

Email: schools@petsastherapy.org

Website: petsastherapy.org



PAT Pets As Therapy



How to donate

When making any donation, please include your school name and postcode as the payment reference.

You can pay directly into our bank account

Account name: **Pets As Therapy Limited**


Sort code: **53-61-55**

Account number: **70057605**

Or scan this QR code and donate using a credit or debit card.



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