

Applying the principles

Your puppy is learning all the time, from the moment he wakes up in the morning, through to last thing at night. Even when he's sleeping, your puppy will be processing everything from the day's adventure. The more you can set him up to do the things you want, the easier it is for you to reinforce his behavior, and for him to learn appropriate ways of behaving.

The PREP programme will provide you with guidance on taking these 4 principles and applying them to real life situations. There may be instances where you have yet to discuss a situation with your Puppy Development Advisor, but the situation arises in real life. Whether it's managing your puppy around the breakfast table in the morning, or introducing him to travelling in lifts, there are some key questions to ask yourself and help you to plan to support him:

	Know	Manage	Teach	Partner
1	Is he fit and healthy?	How can I manage the environment to help make it easier for him to show desired behaviour?	What is the behaviour I want to see?	What is my puppy telling me?
2	Am I taking into account his developmental needs?	How can I prevent unwanted behaviour, without making it unpleasant for him?	How can I set things up to promote the behaviour I want?	Am I adding to the trust/life bank account?
3	Am I taking into account his needs as a dog?	Have I managed the expectations of other people?	What is my puppy learning from this situation?	Are we working together? If not, where is the tension?
4	Do I know how to read his body language and respond appropriately?	Is everyone aware of the plan? Are we all following the same rules?	Do I have the right reinforcers I need to reward his behaviour?	Are we both enjoying this? If not, how can I change things?