



PETS AS THERAPY

Our pets and people enriching lives, one visit at a time.

Read2Dogs

- Helps improve literacy skills and wellbeing
- Develops confidence, interest and enjoyment in reading
- Dogs are non-judgemental and great listeners
- Encourages positive social behaviours and enhances self-esteem



Read2Dogs

Discover how PAT Dogs inspire young people to read

Thousands of people of all ages benefit every week from visits provided by our PAT Teams, volunteers who spend time at residential homes, hospitals, hospices, schools, day care centres and prisons.



For more information or help:

- petsastherapy.org
- reception@petsastherapy.org
- 01865 671440

- [petsastherapyUK](https://twitter.com/petsastherapyUK)
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How the **Read2Dogs** scheme works

The Read2Dogs scheme provided by Pets As Therapy (PAT) helps to improve literacy skills and wellbeing in young people by developing their confidence, interest and enjoyment in reading. Some students feel incredibly nervous and stressed when asked to read aloud, regardless of whether they're in a classroom or having a one-to-one session with a teacher.

When a PAT Dog visits a school, their presence can boost a young person's motivation and morale. Dogs are non-judgemental and great listeners - they don't interrupt or correct - so they aid confidence and concentration levels. PAT Dogs are also known to encourage positive social behaviours, enhance self-esteem and inspire young people to relax and have fun.

"Children have benefited greatly from developing their social skills and they've also gained confidence with their reading."

Greenvale Primary School

The teacher remains in charge of the **Read2Dogs** session at all times. Participants, chosen by the teacher, are usually young people who have difficulty with reading or struggle with their attention span. The teacher chooses and provides appropriate books. We recommend that each young person spends no more than 15 minutes with a PAT Dog.

Animal-assisted therapy can be used by teachers, SENCo, psychologists and speech and language therapists to benefit a young person's physical, emotional and psychosocial health, cognitive function and communication skills.

Read2Dogs helps to improve confidence in literacy skills by encouraging young people to read and communicate in a relaxed and non-judgemental environment.

