

# The Dog Mentor

## Paws for Thought...



[WWW.THEDOGMENTOR.CO.UK](http://WWW.THEDOGMENTOR.CO.UK)



Message from Jenny Duckwoth

### Happy New Year

As we step into the year ahead, I just want to say a huge thank you to everyone who continues to support The Dog Mentor programme and chooses to be part of it. Your commitment, trust and enthusiasm are what make this work so special.

We've got a very exciting year ahead, with lots of growth, new ideas and more opportunities to connect, learn and share practice. Thank you for being part of the journey and for everything you do for the children and young people you support.

### December Highlights



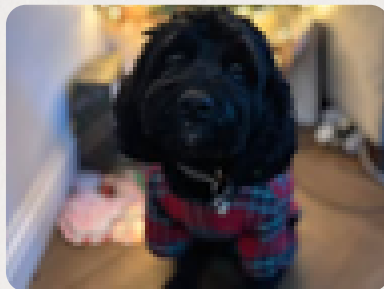
Murphy has been getting into the Christmas spirit during the final few days of term at Rowhill school!



Double the dogs, double the festive joy. Clemmie and her sister Winnie getting into the Christmas spirit.



Santa called... Benji's covering his shift.



New pyjamas: unnecessary. Reggie matching the family: non-negotiable



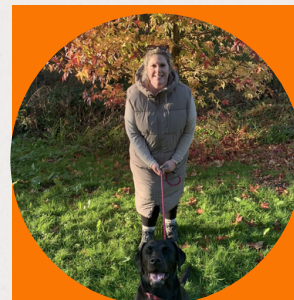
Upcoming CPD

### Gemma Dunn

We're delighted to welcome Gemma Dunn to lead an upcoming CPD session on Wednesday 28th January at 7pm, focused on building strong parent relationships and getting parents fully on board with school approaches.

Gemma brings valuable, real-world experience in working closely with families and understands the importance of positive, trusting relationships between schools and parents in achieving the best outcomes for children.

This CPD will be highly practical, relatable and rooted in everyday school life, offering ideas that staff can use immediately to build stronger partnerships with families.



[Click here to register...](#)

# What to Expect from The Dog Mentor in 2026

2026 is already shaping up to be a huge year for The Dog Mentor, and that's down to the growing number of schools choosing to embed the approach in a meaningful, whole-school way. As demand continues to grow, so do we.



## The Dog Mentor Conference

We're excited to announce that The Dog Mentor Conference 2026 will take place on **Thursday 18 June 2026** at the **Clayton Hotel, Birmingham**.

This one-day, in-person conference is designed exclusively for schools already working with The Dog Mentor and will focus on strengthening and embedding the approach across the whole school. The day is being carefully planned to ensure it is practical, relevant and rooted in real school experience.

Attendees can expect a high-quality day that brings together inspiring speakers, meaningful discussion and practical takeaways to support continued development of The Dog Mentor approach. The conference will offer space to reflect, connect with other schools, and think strategically about next steps, impact and sustainability.

We'll be announcing the conference theme and full speaker line-up in January, ahead of tickets being released.

**Exclusive early bird tickets** will be available for six weeks only, offering priority access and special pricing.

You can register your interest using the link below to be the first to access early bird tickets when they go live. This will be a limited-capacity event, and early interest is already building – more details coming soon.

[Click here to register...](#)



## Growing With You

The Dog Mentor continues to grow to meet demand – but our focus stays the same. We're here for schools, we value relationships, and we want to stay connected.

In 2026 you can expect:

- More trained dogs
- More trained staff
- New faces joining the Dog Mentor team

We're proud to be building something that brings together like-minded schools, shared values and a commitment to doing things properly – not quickly, not superficially.

With **864** trained dogs and nearly **700** schools, we can't wait to continue this journey together in 2026.

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