



Hypo Hounds

Application Pack 26/27



Welcome to the Hypo Hounds Application Pack

This application pack is designed to help us understand you, your family and your child's Diabetes and individual needs. **Before completing the application, please take the time to read this pack in full and carefully consider which Hypo Hounds programme is most appropriate for your circumstances.**

We offer three different pathways:

- **Diabetic Alert Dog** – for children who may benefit from a dog trained to assist with the early detection of low blood glucose levels.
- **Medical Therapy Dog** – for children who may benefit primarily from the therapeutic and emotional support provided by a specially trained dog.
- **Companion Dog** – for children and their families who would benefit from the companionship, routine and support of a trained dog, without the dog being relied upon for medical alerting.

It is important that you apply for the pathway that is most appropriate for your needs. A Diabetic Alert Dog is not suitable or necessary for every applicant and applying for a Diabetic Alert Dog does not guarantee that this will be the pathway recommended following our assessment. Whichever pathway is appropriate, all Hypo Hounds dogs require an ongoing commitment to training. You will be required to attend weekly training sessions at our training centre in Kent, alongside continuing the work and training at home.

Please consider carefully whether you, your family and your support network can make this commitment before applying.

The application and assessment process

The information you provide in this application pack will allow us to assess your circumstances and determine whether our programme is suitable for you. Once we receive your completed application, we will review the information provided. If we feel that you may be suitable for the programme, we will contact you to arrange an interview to discuss your circumstances in more detail.

Priority will always be given to applicants with the greatest **clinical need**. This is assessed using the medical information provided to us by your healthcare professional as part of the application process.

If your circumstances or medical condition change at any stage, please notify us as soon as possible so that we can ensure the information we hold remains accurate.

There is an application processing fee of £50.00 which is non-refundable, this helps us with the costs associated with the processing of your application. The other costs associated with being a service user of Hypo Hounds is a £10.00pcm administration fee, paying for the dog's food, veterinary costs and insurance.

What a Hypo Hound can and cannot do

Our programme has been designed to support you with your child's diabetes management; it is not a cure for diabetes. A Hypo Hound is intended to complement, rather than replace, the medical care and support you already receive from your Diabetes Team. For those receiving a **Diabetic Alert Dog**, the dog is trained to assist with the early detection of low blood glucose levels and can provide an additional layer of support alongside your existing diabetes management, including the use of a Libre or other CGM system.

It is important to understand that a Diabetic Alert Dog is not a replacement for blood glucose monitoring, medical advice or your existing diabetes management plan. If you are applying for a Diabetic Alert Dog, you should be prepared to test your blood glucose more frequently, using a finger-prick blood glucose meter, even if you use a CGM. This is an important consideration when deciding whether a Diabetic Alert Dog is right for you.

A Diabetic Alert Dog is not a robot, and, like any living animal, there will be times when the dog may not alert. The dog must therefore never be relied upon as the sole method of detecting or managing low blood glucose levels.

A Hypo Hound can also provide valuable emotional and therapeutic support to an individual and their family. However, a Hypo Hound cannot be trained to work as an overnight monitoring service and should not be viewed as a means for parents or carers to be able to sleep without carrying out their usual diabetes management and monitoring.

Your commitment to the programme

Becoming a Hypo Hounds partnership is an ongoing training programme and requires time, consistency, commitment and hard work from both the dog and the people responsible for them.

Weekly attendance at our **training centre in Kent is a requirement for all three pathways** — Diabetic Alert Dog, Medical Therapy Dog and Companion Dog. In addition to attending these sessions, you will need to continue training and working with your dog at home.

Training is Monday to Friday between 10am and 4pm only.

We strongly encourage the involvement of your immediate support network, which will usually include family members. Where appropriate, this may also include members of your healthcare team or other supporting organisations. The support and understanding of family and friends are extremely important. Building a successful partnership between you and your dog takes time and requires encouragement, consistency and commitment throughout the programme and beyond.

Need help completing the application?

If you have any questions about completing this application pack, are unsure which pathway is most appropriate for you, or need support with completing the forms, please contact us.

We are happy to provide guidance and help you understand the different options before you submit your application.

We are also happy to assist you with completing the application, just reach out to us.

Choosing what dog is right for your child.

Hypo Hounds trains 3 types of dogs to help Children with their clinical and emotional wellbeing, to help you choose what one you think might suit your child's needs we have compiled this visual aid to assist you. Should you need clarification or advice – please reach out to us.

Public Access refers to the dog's legal status of being able to accompany your child anywhere where pet dogs are not allowed to go. For example: hospitals, shops, dentists.

Choosing the Right
Hypo Hound for Your Child

All Hypo Hounds remain owned by Hypo Hounds.

 Hypo Hound Diabetic Alert Assistance Dog	 Hypo Hound Medical Therapy Dog	 Hypo Hound Companion Dog
✓ Detects blood sugar changes & alerts you ✓ Fully Trained Assistance Dog ✓ Full Public Access	✓ Supports emotional well-being ✓ Fully Trained Assistance Dog ✓ Full Public Access	✓ Provides cuddles & companionship ✓ Highly Trained Family Pet ✗ No Public Access
 Medical Alerts & Safety	 Emotional Support	 Comfort at Home

☒ Full Public Access (Shops, Schools & More)
 ☐ No Public Access

Each Hypo Hound is matched to your child's needs!

Having read the above guide it is now time for you to choose what application you will be completing. All applications require the same paperwork to be submitted along with a verified medical form which is signed or endorsed with a separate letter by your Diabetes Team. Please circle what dog below

Name of Child:

Date of Birth:

Parent or Guardian Name:

Diabetic Alert Dog 🐾

Medical Therapy Dog 🐾

Companion Dog 🐾

Application Process

STAGE 1

1. The completed Hypo Hounds application pack is submitted and sent to us with 3 months Blood Glucose readings and £50.00 processing fee.
2. The application is reviewed.

After reviewing the application, the applicant is notified if they are eligible to move onto Stage 2 of the application process.

STAGE 2

1. A interview will be conducted by our staff to ensure that we understand your needs.

The applicant will be notified if they are eligible to move onto Stage 3 of the application process.

STAGE 3

1. We will attend your home and conduct a home check where all members of the family must be present.

Only upon completion of all 3 stages, will you be eligible for a Hypo Hound.

STAGE 4

1. Applicant is invited to our training centre to work with potential matches.
2. Applicant is notified of the match and a date is set for a sleep over.
3. Once the training team and applicant is happy that the chosen dog is right for them a transition to their home date will be set.
4. The applicant then must complete training weekly at our training centre with a 1-1 Hypo Hound trainer until they are ready to qualify. This is Monday to Friday between 10am and 4pm and will be at our training centre or other location in Kent.

This is a lengthy process and sometimes the waiting period could be as long as 2 years. This is due to the length of time necessary to raise and train a Hypo Hound Assistance Dog. It is important that we find just the right dog for you! Previously approved applications may be removed from our waiting list if:

1. They have been on our waiting list for over 2 years, and we are unable to find a match for them.
2. We are unable to provide support in their geographic area.
3. Staff limitations causes us to reassess our ability to place a Hypo Hound with the applicant.

I have read the application process and understand with is involved in this application.

Signed:

Print Name:

Date:



Practice Stamp:

CLIENT MEDICAL FORM ©Hypo Hounds 2026/27

Please ask your Healthcare Professional to fill in the following and return it to us with your completed application if under 16years a parent or legal guardian is to sign. This must be endorsed by the surgery practice stamp above or have a covering letter.

Applicant details

Name Date of birth

Address

Postcode Telephone

Please release the following medical information regarding my condition to Hypo Hounds. The information will not be used for any other purpose than to evaluate my application to join the Hypo Hounds assistance dog programme.

Applicants signature

Date

THIS FORM IS BEING COMPLETED BY: Diabetic consultant/Diabetic specialist nurse/GP Name:

Hospital or Surgery Name:

Postcode:

Email:

Telephone number

When was this patient diagnosed with Diabetes:

Diabetes control: MDI / PUMP

Make & Model of Pump:

How often does this patient receive follow up regarding their diabetes 3 / 6 / 12 Months

What was the last 3 documented Hba1c's: 1/ 2/ 3/ Date's

Are you aware of the patient having frequent hypoglycaemic or hyperglycaemia without or without awareness in the last 12 months:
Yes / No

Has the patient collapsed due to this? Yes / No

Is this patient/patients care givers capable of coping with the demands of training a dog? Yes / No

Has this patient been hospitalised post diagnosis due to their Diabetes in the last 12 months? Yes / No

How many times? Dates of admissions

Is this patient compliant with the management of their Diabetes Yes /No

Has this patient ever showed any signs of aggression, violent behaviour, verbal or physical when blood sugars are out of range?

Yes / No Give details

In your professional opinion would a Diabetic Alert Dog / Medical Therapy Dog or Companion Dog be of significant benefit to this child clinically and emotionally? Yes / No

Other significant medical history, medication or further comments (please use additional paper if required)

Signed:

Date:

Name & Position:



Client Application Form ©Hypo Hounds 2026/27

Name of Client :

Date of birth:

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Contact telephone (Home/Work/Mobile)

Please advise if there are any times during the day when you are unable to receive calls: Yes / No

Email:

Address of Client:

.....

Post code:

School or Nursery Details:

.....

Post Code:

I have read the Terms and conditions and agree: Yes/No

Signed Date.....

Parent/Legal Guardian if under 18

Relationship to child

HOME INFORMATION FORM

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This form is for us to check the suitability of your home/lifestyle. Please answer the questions openly and honestly, please explain/expand should you wish on a separate form. All areas will be tested by our home visit so please be transparent or this may prevent or delay your application.

********We will not home one of our dogs in a multi dog household********

How many people reside in your house with you? Please list and give details of all including age

.....

.....

.....

.....

Do any of the above household members other than the Diabetic have any medical or behavioural conditions that may impact or be improved by a dog?

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.....

Have you ever owned a dog before?

Do you currently have a dog?

What breed/Age is that dog?

Do you live in a House? Flat?

If you live in a flat what floor do you live on?

Is access to your flat via stairs? Lift?

Do you have a private entrance or communal?

Do you have immediate access to a space to allow a dog to toilet?

Yes / No

Is that space secured? Is it owned by you?

Yes / No

Who has access to that space?

Do you own or rent the property?

(If your property is rented, we will require written consent from your landlord or housing authority before processing this application)



Do you have a secure Garden? Yes / No

How big is your garden?

Do you have any other pets in your household?

Are any members of your family nervous around dogs?

Do you smoke or Vape? Yes / No

Are you able to provide daily exercise for the dog? Yes / No

What would that exercise be?

Will you need support to exercise a dog?

(Clients under the age of 16 will not be able to exercise a dog without an appropriate adult present)

Is someone at home during the day?

Is there anyone in the household that is allergic to dogs? Yes / No

Are you willing to pay for the dog's annual insurance- this will be monthly via Direct Debit? Yes / No

Are you willing to pay for the dog's food which must be the brand we use? Yes / No

Are you willing to take full responsibility for the dog's annual vaccinations, preventative medication as well as emergency medical care? Yes / No

You will be required to attend suitability assessments with our puppies on a weekly basis before being matched are you able to do this? Yes / No

Once matched you will be required to come to us once a week for training – are you able to commit to this? Yes / No

Training sessions may require an overnight stay at your expense are you able to do this? Yes / No

Do you have access to a vehicle? Make and model.....

Has anyone in your household ever been subject to an investigation by the RSPCA or banned from keeping pets?

I can confirm that the above information supplied to Hypo Hounds is correct.

Signed date

Data Protection Act: Consent Form

In order for Hypo Hounds to help you, we may need to record your details, some of which may contain your personal sensitive medical data.

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, we as a charity must tell you how we will use this data and ask your permission. By signing this form, you are providing your permission to process your data for the purposes outlined below.

Permission to store your data.

We are required by law to ask your permission to record your data which include medical, personal and sensitive data. The record in your case may be stored electronically or on a paper-based system accessed by members of Hypo Hounds training staff and management.

For the purpose of the Data Protection Act, the members of Hypo Hounds are data controllers in common.

Permission to share your data.

Everything you provide Hypo Hounds will be treated confidentially, and **we will not** share your data with any external body or third party.

If you give consent below, you are agreeing that Hypo Hounds can store your data and may share your personal data with the training team for the purpose of training a dog for you.

YES / NO I / We give my / our consent for Hypo Hounds to hold my personal data for the purpose outlined above for the purpose of being a client of Hypo Hounds.

Name Parent/Guardian of

Signature

Date

What is personal and sensitive data? Personal data is that which can be used to identify you, this could be your name, date of birth, address telephone. Sensitive data is information such as medical data, ethnic origin, religion, health, sexuality, offences, or convictions.

Where will my data be stored? Your data will be stored electronically or on hard paper copied held securely in locked files.

What is a data controller? Is a person who is responsible for your data and its safety. For this purpose, Hypo Hounds are data controllers in common which means that the Board of Trustees are jointly responsible for the security of your data.

Can I / We withhold my / our consent? **Yes** we will not record your information unless you provide consent. Hypo Hounds will not share your information with anyone unless required to do so by law. This includes grant funders, donors, breeders or other external sources.

***HYPO HOUND POLICIES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AND ARE SITUATED IN THE BINDERS IN THE RECEPTION AREA.**



Hypo Hounds
Hounds improving lives

Hypo Hounds Consent Form

Media and Promotional use of client information.

Client Name:

Date:

I, or my parent or legal guardian give consent for my information, images and/or video and sound recordings of me, or the individual named above to be shared with (ring the relevant statement)

I am also aware that I can withdraw my consent at any stage should I wish upon written notice, I give my consent voluntarily.

Signed:

Print name:

Date:

Client signature:

Relationship:

As a news item on Hypo Hounds Social Media Platforms.	Yes / No
As a news item on the Hypo Hounds website.	Yes / No
By Hypo Hounds staff at external professional conferences.	Yes / No
In Hypo Hounds Newsletters, publications, brochure, or PR materials.	Yes / No
For any other media release, broadcast that the charity deems fit.	Yes / No

Thank you for completing these forms. If we feel that we can assist we will be in contact with you to arrange a formal interview and home check. If you are accepted onto the program, you will go onto our waiting list. To aid your application please ensure that you include all the following:

CHECKLIST

Client medical form signed and verified (we are unable to accept this unless it has been validated with a practice stamp)

Client application form

Home check questionnaire

Data protection form

Letter of Authorisation from your landlord or housing authority if you rent a property.

3 months BG readings

£50 application processing fee

Please email your application to: Info@hypohounds.co.uk

If you require help completing this application please call us on: 01233 756555

Any other information you feel is relevant to this application :