

Volunteering Opportunity

Title: SUMMER READING CHALLENGE HELPER

Place: At the following Wiltshire libraries: Aldbourne, Amesbury, Bradford on Avon, Calne, Chippenham, Corsham, Cricklade, Devizes, Downton, Malmesbury, Marlborough, Mere, Melksham, Pewsey, Royal Wootton Bassett, Salisbury, Tidworth, Trowbridge, Warminster, Westbury, Wilton.

Reports to: Library Manager/Senior Library Assistant

Purpose: To support children taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge

Responsibilities:

- Registering children for the challenge
- Listening to children talk about the books they have read (within a limited time period)
- Prompting them to tell you about why they liked/disliked the books, rather than just a re-telling of the stories
- Encouraging children to keep reading in order to complete the challenge
- Encouraging children to explore new and different reading choices
- Ensuring this is a fun experience for the children, not perceived as a form of homework or test
- Giving out stickers and other incentives for each book read
- Using discretion (as directed) with children who are new to reading and/or struggle with it
- Accurately and clearly recording information on the register throughout the challenge
- Shelving and shelf tidying in children's areas – as directed by staff

Requirements:

- Likes and is empathetic with children (aged 4-11) – essential
- Is reliable, friendly and patient - essential
- Is good at verbally communicating with children, their accompanying family and friends - essential

- Has an interest in books and reading, especially children's fiction – essential
- Is a library member
- A reasonable knowledge of current children's fiction – desirable
- is outgoing and confident - desirable
- Applications will be accepted from younger applicants (14+) as well as adults

Commitment:

- Will vary in each library - to be agreed with Librarian
- At least one 3 hour session per week, morning or afternoon, for 6 weeks (or the equivalent) i.e. minimum of 16 hours commitment
- This may include some Saturdays and other busy times e.g. lunchtimes

Length of Opportunity:

The Summer Reading Challenge 2018 runs from 14 July to 8 September 2018 (8 weeks), so volunteers would be needed throughout this period (specific times to be agreed with the Library Manager/Senior Library Assistant).

Applicants to inform Library Manager/Senior Library Assistant about any period during this time they won't be available.

Expenses:

n/a

Selection process:

An informal meeting to discuss your skills and suitability for the role. Depending on the number of suitable applicants we may have to restrict the number of placements we can offer in individual libraries.

Training:

Training to be arranged and provided locally – session to cover the purpose of the Summer Reading Challenge, children's library services and children's book information.

If interested:

Please ask a member of staff for an application form
Closing date 11 May 2018 (applications may be accepted after this date – dependant on local circumstances)