

Primary Volunteering



Can you spare an hour a week?

We need business
volunteers to help London
children with their reading
and number skills



London Central
Education Business Alliance

A circular photograph showing a woman with short brown hair and a young child with curly brown hair looking at a laptop screen. The woman is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, and the child is wearing a blue denim shirt. They are both smiling and appear to be engaged in a learning activity.

Primary
School
Volunteering

Would
you like to
help children
develop their reading, number and
IT skills?

Then our Primary School Volunteers
Programme could offer just what
you need.

We link employees from London
businesses to local primary schools,
which they visit each week to help
small groups of children with their
reading, maths and IT skills.

'It's one of the highlights of my week'

'It provides a wonderful contrast to my working week'

Building the team

Many companies recruit a small team of volunteers to join the scheme, so it's a chance to develop team work. You can work alongside your colleagues as you visit the schools, pulling together to achieve a common purpose.

What you gain

For the children this scheme provides a valuable boost – the chance to get extra support and individual attention from another adult for a term. While as a business volunteer you gain:

- the satisfaction of seeing children grow confident and more able
- the chance to give something back to the local community (we try to make sure the schools are no more than 30 minutes from where you work or live)
- the opportunity to practise your communication and teamwork skills in a new and refreshing setting.

An hour a week

Volunteers spend approximately half an hour a week at the school. Many volunteers say how much they enjoy the visits, even if they are busy at work. We ask that you agree to volunteer for at least one term, so that you can build a relationship with the children at the school. You'll also see the progress the children make because of your visits.

Training

As a volunteer you will be offered training at the outset and ongoing support by e-mail and telephone, plus regular review and feedback sessions. Volunteers are not expected to take the place of a teacher but are there to give one-to-one encouragement to children, helping them to relax, gain confidence and enjoy their reading.

Individual attention

One in four children in London needs extra help and support with reading. By working one-to-one or with a small group of 2-3 children, you can make all the difference.

As one teacher puts it: 'The pupils love the quality one-to-one time reading and talking about subjects of interest to them. It has impacted on not only their reading but, importantly, their self-esteem.'

Join the team

Businesses already offering volunteers include: Accenture, BUPA, John Lewis, KPMG, Macmillan Children's Books, Saatchi & Saatchi, The British Library, Bain & Co, CSV, McDonald's Restaurants Ltd, WHSmith and Cadbury Ltd

What the children say...

'I like reading to him. He's funny and he helps me with the words when I get stuck.'

'I can do my number 10s now'

'She's friendly and she talks to me too'



Discover more

To find out how your company can get involved in our Primary School Volunteers programme simply contact London Central Education Business Alliance using the details below.

Primary School Volunteering in central London is co-ordinated by London Central Education Business Alliance, a consortium of organisations dedicated to creating links between schools and businesses. The scheme is funded by Learning & Skills Council.

'No matter how tired I am before I start I'm always completely absorbed and feel revitalised when I get back to work.'

'I really feel that I'm making a difference'



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