



# The **Paddington** Partnership Volunteering in Schools

Our local Primary and Secondary schools are looking for volunteers to support their students.

By volunteering your time as a student mentor, a reading or numeracy partner or helping to run a breakfast or afterschool club, you can develop a student's communication skills, build confidence and raise aspirations.

## How does the programme work?

The Paddington Community Programme will support you throughout your volunteering, keeping in regular contact to ensure your placement goes smoothly and letting you know about the impact your volunteering has on the students you work with.

- There are no costs to you
- You do not need any prior experience
- We will match you to a suitable, local school
- Co-ordinate all administration (including DBS police checks) and organise an induction session, where you will be given a tour of the school and meet key staff
- Arrange for schools to provide relevant preparatory material, guidance and training
- Be on hand to support your volunteering throughout and report on the difference you make

For most projects in schools, you are required to commit to at least one full term (approximately 12 weeks) in the first instance, though we find most volunteers choose to stay at the school for the whole academic year, if not longer.

## One-off opportunities to support your local schools

If you cannot commit to regular volunteering, there are still plenty of opportunities for you to share your experience of the world of work and make a difference. We would love to talk to you about opportunities to deliver assemblies, hold careers workshops or even host work experience students.

## What skills do I need to become a volunteer?

All you need is to be an enthusiastic and supportive role model, happy to work with young inquisitive students. Indeed, our volunteers often report they get just as much out of the programme as their students, with their own communication skills, and morale, receiving a significant boost through the difference they make to the lives of these young people.

It's great to be able to do something worthwhile and enjoyable. The results become apparent very quickly and when the children get to like you, it's priceless."

Dil, Volunteer and Reading Mentor (Kingfisher)

## How do I join?

Just get in touch and we'll do the rest.

**Emily, Community Programme Manager**

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