

**Young Volunteers 2024**

**General information**

Every year Barnet Libraries run The Reading Agency’s Summer Reading Challenge. This is a national scheme to encourage 4-12 year olds to read during the summer holidays. The challenge is to read at least 6 books from the library - this year’s challenge is called **Marvellous Makers!**

The challenge starts on Saturday 6 July and ends Saturday 7 September. Children visit the library to tell us about what they have read and to collect their free stickers and prizes. When they have read 6 books, they receive a medal and a certificate.

The challenge is always very popular in Barnet, and we would like to give you the opportunity to help deliver this great scheme. It is fun and rewarding listening to young children and experiencing their joy of reading and the experience will also equip you with new skills.

**Here is what we would like you to do**

* Talk to families who are using the library and encourage them to sign up for the Gadgeteers challenge.

* Help children join the challenge – parents will fill out the registration cards whilst you explain to the children what they have to do. Also, explain the prizes.
* Assist with filing and organising the membership cards.
* Encourage children to borrow a range of books and to read something different.
* Talk with and listen to the children about the books they have been reading. Ask them questions about their books – what did they enjoy about the story? what were the characters like? etc.
* Give out the free stickers and special gifts.
* Encourage children to complete the challenge.
* Help to shelve the books in the children’s library. It can get very messy in there so we need to keep it as tidy and as organised as we can.
* Help staff with art and craft events and assist with displays.

**Person Specification**

You will need to be between 14-17 years old to volunteer with us.

You will be expected to volunteer for 4 sessions (8 hours in total – 2 hours per session) at your designated library. These will be during staffed hours only.

We are flexible and can work around your commitments and holidays so please don’t hesitate to let us know.

The library staff will always be around to help you so feel free to ask questions or ask for help if you are unsure.

**We are looking for young people who are:**

1. Committed and dedicated
2. Hardworking and keen to learn
3. Can keep calm during busy periods but occupied during quiet periods.
4. Confident in talking to young children
5. Enthusiastic about reading

**What we will do for you:**

* We will provide you with training before the challenge starts.
* We will keep a record of the hours you volunteer for us.
* We will make sure you are happy with the tasks and are able to carry them

out for us.

* There will be recognition for the volunteering you have done.
* If you are working towards a Duke of Edinburgh or Arts Award, this volunteering opportunity may count towards the hours you are required to do.
* We can give you a reference for employment.

If you are still interested in volunteering with us, please fill out the application form available on the link from our **Marvellous Makers!** webpage.

[**www.barnet.gov.uk/marvellousmakers**](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/marvellousmakers)

Email the application form to chippingbarnet.library@barnet.gov.uk OR

Post or hand the application form to Sim Branaghan, Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN5 4WT.

We look forward to hearing from you!