



Summer Reading Challenge 2022

Library Service

Purpose of the role:

To assist staff in the running of the annual Summer Reading Challenge, for children aged 4 – 11. The Challenge aims to give children something enjoyable to do during the holidays and helps prevent any dip in literacy which can occur during the long break from school. Children are asked to read 6 books and discuss their reading with library staff and volunteers. They are given incentives such as stickers, and are awarded a medal and certificate upon completion.

Main tasks and activities may include:

- Help staff with registering children onto the scheme;
- Listen to the children and actively encourage them to talk about books and reading;
- Encourage children to continue reading and complete the Challenge;
- Give out stickers and other incentives;
- Help children, and their parents / carers, to select the child's next 'good read';
- Prepare additional materials for the children to use during the Challenge e.g. colouring sheets, activity sheets;
- Help staff at any linked events e.g. special activities

Volunteers will have these qualities, skills and experiences:

You do not need to have any previous experience of volunteering or working in a library. For this volunteering role you will need:

- Have an interest in and enthusiasm for children's books and reading;
- Be able to relate to children and their parents/carers in a welcoming and friendly manner;
- Be able to communicate clearly, both verbally and in writing;
- Be able to work well with all customers and staff;
- Be able to work as part of a team but also to use your own initiative;
- Be reliable.
- An interest in libraries and desire to be an advocate for the service;

Types of training and resources available to support volunteers:

- Full training in how the Summer Reading Challenge works;
- An introduction to the area of the library you will be based in;
- Introductions to all members of staff alongside whom you will be volunteering;
- Out of pocket expenses will be paid;
- Accreditation may also be available.

How often does the volunteer activity tend to take place?

- This is a short-term volunteering opportunity between 10 July and 11 September.
- Sessions are available across North Somerset libraries.
- Hours are flexible.

Where does the voluntary activity take place?

The opportunity is being offered in full at the following libraries:

The Campus; The Healthy Living Centre library; Nailsea; Pill; Portishead; Weston; Winscombe; Worle; Yatton; and the Mobile library (Wrighton, Backwell & Long Ashton).

Due to the refurbishment of Clevedon Library in 2022, there will be limited volunteering opportunities at this location. We are encouraging volunteers based in Clevedon to consider supporting the Challenge at Nailsea, Yatton, Portishead, or other nearby libraries.

Name and contact details of the volunteer co-ordinator:

Name: The Library Volunteering Team

Email: library.volunteers@n-somerset.gov.uk

Phone number: 01275 888 864

Other important information:

- Parental permission needed for anyone aged 14-17, (a form will be provided);
- If you are concerned that volunteering may affect any benefits you receive, please ask and we will do our best to assist you.
- All library volunteering roles involve dealing with the public and are customer focused.

- Volunteers are complementary to paid workers and volunteers should not be used to replace staff.

To apply online please visit our website at:

www.n-somerset.gov.uk/src-volunteering

Document updated 24/03/2022