

Young Volunteers 2018: an opportunity for 14-17 year olds to help out at summer activities in Barnet Libraries

General information and person specification

Every year Barnet Libraries run the Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge. This is a national scheme to encourage 4 to 11 year olds to read during the summer holidays. The challenge is to read at least 6 books from the library. The theme for 2018 is **Mischief Makers**, which coincides with the 80th anniversary of Beano the comic.

We launch the challenge on Saturday 14 July and it ends when the children start back to school in 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 we give them a special award and a certificate for completing the challenge.

The challenge is always very popular in Barnet and we would like to give you the chance to help deliver this great scheme. It is fun and rewarding listening to young children and experiencing their joy of reading.

Here is what we want you to do

- Talk to families who are using the library and encourage them to sign up for Mischief Makers
- Help children join the challenge – you will help them to fill in their details on a registration card
- Assist with filing and organising the membership cards
- Talk with and listen to children aged 4 to 11 about the books they have been reading
- Act as reading buddies (optional) – supporting children's reading
- Encourage children to borrow a range of books from a recommended list
- Help to shelf tidy in the children's library
- Give out the free stickers and special gifts
- Encourage children to complete the challenge
- Help staff with art and craft activities for children during the summer
- Help with displays
- Help children to use the Mischief Makers website – www.mischief-makers.org.uk
- Hand out and collect evaluation forms

You must be aged 14 – 17. You will be expected to volunteer for 2 hours per session for 4 sessions (8 hours in total). This will usually be either 10am – 12 noon or 2.30pm – 4.30pm Monday – Saturday by arrangement with the library concerned. We are flexible and can work round any holidays you might be taking in the summer.

Remember

You will not be alone. Experienced staff will always be there to help you!

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 award or Arts Award, this volunteering opportunity may count towards the hours you are required to do.
- We can give you a reference for employment.

Person Specification

We are looking for young people who are:

1. Calm when things are busy, but able to keep occupied when things are quiet
2. Good at talking to young children
3. Enthusiastic about reading
4. Committed to helping libraries and our customers

If you are still interested in volunteering with us, please fill out the application form available on the link from our Mischief Makers webpage and return it to us by Monday 16 July. You can get it to us by email or post:

- Scan your signed form and email it to rachel.reilly@barnet.gov.uk
- Post it to Rachel Reilly (YV2018), c/o Osidge Library, Brunswick Park Road, London N11 1EY

We look forward to hearing from you!

www.barnet.gov.uk/mischiefmakers