

Assisted Reading for Children

ARCh is an Oxfordshire charity which recruits, trains, places and supports dedicated reading helpers to provide one to one personalised reading support to 6-11 year olds. We have a growing network of volunteers around the county, working in over 100 primary schools in Oxfordshire and supporting around 750 children each week.

Help children achieve more

Despite many initiatives, there is still a link between social class and educational achievement. ARCh helps children develop a love of reading which enhances their lives at school, and beyond, so that they can go on to make a positive contribution to society and achieve economic well-being.

How ARCh can help your school

Schools identify the children that they believe would benefit from one to one interventions with a trained ARCh reading helper. These children spend 30 minutes twice a week with their ARCh mentor for the academic year. Generally, these are children who are able to read but are performing below average ability or who struggle to enjoy or understand reading. We recruit, train, DBS check and place the reading helper in your school. We provide them with a box of books and games. Resources are carefully chosen with the children's interests in mind. We provide frequent opportunities to change these resources.

Once the reading helper is placed in your school, we provide regular observation visits to ensure that all is going well. We also run refresher and recall training as well as holding support meetings each term.

Our reading helpers provide one to one support to children who may be struggling with their confidence, reading or language skills. Over time, the children learn to love reading and their communication skills also improve. We help children to develop a love of books and an opportunity to discover and explore a new world of reading materials.

What the schools say

“ARCh reading helpers’ contribution is invaluable. They make our children more confident to share their views and help them improve their attitude towards reading. It’s lovely to see the connection they establish with a child. The children feel special, nurtured and ever so happy when they need to read. Thank you so much for your support.”

St Edmunds RC Primary School

“ARCh reader helpers are an extremely valuable resource as they provide 1:1 support and attention for children who often receive little at home. The relationship the children build with their reader is so strong and enables the children to gain in confidence and ultimately make progress.”

Kings Meadow Primary School

What we need from the school

We need the school to identify the children who would benefit from our service, and to provide a place for the reading helper to work which is outside the classroom. It usually helps if the children do not take part in other intervention programmes so that their progress can be accurately measured. We encourage regular meetings between the class teacher and the ARCh helper, and ask that they are kept informed of term dates, events and inset days. We also encourage schools to treat them as part of their school community.

Our Reading Helpers

Our reading helpers come from a variety of backgrounds and are aged from 18 to 80 plus. All come with a wealth of experience and expertise. All are trained and supported to our high standards and are dedicated and committed.



Our impact

At the end of the school year we ask schools to tell us the impact our reading helpers have made on the children's reading, confidence and communication skills. Pupils in our 2018 survey showed improvements as below:

99% showed an improved confidence in reading

96% displayed improved attitude to reading

95% improved reading performance

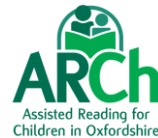
95% showed improved self-confidence/self-esteem

From a total of 603 sent out, 370 surveys were completed (61% reply rate). Evaluation conducted in association with Research Oxford Ltd

www.researchoxford.co.uk

Would you like to know more?

ARCh asks schools to contribute towards the cost of providing this highly effective service which is only £450 per reading helper per year. Many schools use Pupil Premium to fund our service. In return, we will provide a trained and supported helper who will provide ongoing one to one support to three children twice weekly throughout the school year. Through working together, we can make a huge difference to those children who are not yet engaged in learning and help to enrich your school community.



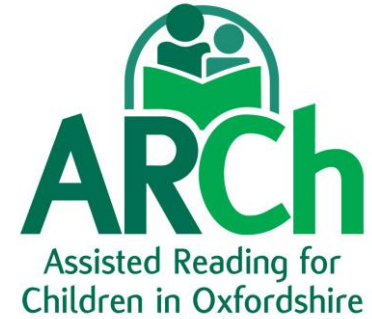
For more information;
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www.archoxfordshire.org.uk

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ARCh School leaflet 2019



Providing personalised learning in partnership with Primary Schools



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