

Schoolreaders (www.schoolreaders.org) are currently looking for reading volunteers from among Buckingham U3A members to partner with local primary schools.

They are a national charity set up to improve children's literacy.

In 2014, 1 in 8 children left their first school unable to read to the required standard. Poor literacy at an early age makes learning more difficult and has severe lifelong results. This is something which Schoolreaders is determined to stop.

Reading well is key to a child's development. It is a fundamental skill which aids learning, helps children to succeed at school and get on in life. However, for many children, reading time at home and school may be insufficient.

Research by Oxford University Press shows **just 10 minutes reading a day can boost school achievement!**

Schoolreaders place volunteers in local schools to listen to children read on a one to one basis. The aim is to encourage reading, improve literacy and build confidence to give children in the community the best possible start in life.

The scheme launched in Bedfordshire in September 2013 with just 12 schools. Today, Schoolreaders works nationwide with over 100 primary schools and 135 volunteers who together have committed 13000 hours to children in their area.

This is a new area for the charity and they are currently looking for new reading volunteers to support local schools. The only requirements are that volunteers are able to commit 1-3 hours a week during term time and are fluent in English.

If you would like to be involved in this worthwhile project supporting children in the area, **please visit their website at www.schoolreaders.org** and complete the online application.

Alternatively, **call a member of the Schoolreaders team on 01234 924111 or email at admin@schoolreaders.org .**