



## Bright Sparks Tutor Volunteer

<b>Location</b>	Selected primary schools in Western Sydney
<b>Why we need you?</b>	Settling into a new school environment can be a challenging experience for newly arrived children. SPARK's <b>Bright Spark Tutor</b> program pairs newly arrived children in years 5 and 6 with a <i>skilled</i> volunteer tutor who assists in the delivery of an individualised learning plan. There is a strong focus on improving the child's English language skills and developing their skills for learning in the classroom.
<b>Who we need?</b>	Skilled volunteers who have (or are working towards) a relevant educational qualification or equivalent experience. All volunteers need to be friendly, approachable, patient and creative, and sensitive to cross cultural issues. We are looking for someone who is <b>reliable and committed</b> , as this is vital for the success of the program.
<b>What you will be doing?</b>	You'll work with up to two children, supporting each child's academic development and English language acquisition, and building their skills for learning in the classroom. You will tutor each child for an hour within the school premises only, at agreed upon time that is convenient for yourself and relevant school staff. Tutors complete reporting requirements for each child after each tutoring session, and communicate regularly with SPARK staff (usually by phone).
<b>What will you get out of it?</b>	This is a meaningful and enjoyable way to experience the diversity and richness of other cultures while enjoying the rewards of helping others. SPARK volunteers are well supported with professional help and ongoing training available. Leadership opportunities are available.
<b>How long is the commitment?</b>	Up to 1 hour per child, per week, for 8 weeks per term. Volunteers commit to a minimum of 2 terms per year – <i>but we'd love you to sign up for more.</i>
<b>Want to know more?</b>	For more information, call us on 9568 0280 or apply directly at <a href="http://spark.vinnies.org.au">spark.vinnies.org.au</a>





## IMPACT

SPARK's key aim is that families and children from a refugee, asylum seeker and migrant background settle well. They are able to fully participate in the community's social, educational and economic life, and so are less vulnerable to exclusion and discrimination, social and health issues, and disadvantage.

**Children:** Newly arrived children from a refugee and migrant background settle well into school and their community. They have learning and social skills, and make good academic progress. They have resilience and good emotional and mental health.

**Families:** Newly arrived families settle well into the school and local community. Parents engage with and support children's learning; have the confidence and knowledge to connect with the school and the awareness, skills and connections to access support and progress their settlement.

**Schools:** Schools have the capacity to support the successful settlement of newly arrived children and families into school and the school community. Schools partner on initiatives that support the children's learning and adjustment, and engage parents in children's learning and in school community activities.

**SPARK delivers programs across 8 schools in Western Sydney and works with several community partners within Fairfield, Liverpool and Parramatta.**

**SPARK reaches 300 children on weekly basis and another 200 children through workshop based programs. It engages and supports 150 parents and toddlers through workshops, excursions and support programs.**

***Join our volunteer team! Fill in an application form at [spark.vinnies.org.au](http://spark.vinnies.org.au)***

*"I have had a wonderful time at the program, it felt awesome being a part of something big, meeting like-minded people...but above all, having some laughs."*

- SPARK Volunteer

*"SPARK is a great program for kids because it gives them a chance in life and it gives them a bright life, and if they cooperate, they will be a star."*

- SPARK Student

