

Bright Sparks Tutor Volunteer – Education Skilled Volunteer Opportunity

Location	Selected primary schools in Western Sydney.
Why we need you?	<p>SPARK is a settlement support program that provides social, cultural and educational support to newly arrived children and families of refugee background.</p> <p>Bright Spark Tutor assists children to increase their:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• English language, reading, writing, and numeracy skills• Understanding of the Australian school system and skills for learning in the classroom• Enjoyment of learning• Self-confidence and resilience• Preparedness for transition to high school
Who we need?	<p>Education skilled volunteers; with the ability to build positive relationships with teachers and children; with at least one of the below essential criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• University level qualification in Education or Teaching (Primary or High School), <i>OR</i>• Equivalent experience teaching children: such as overseas teaching experience, <i>OR</i>• Experience supporting primary aged children in school settings: such as School Learning Support Officer (SLSO), school councillor, school psychologist
What you will be doing?	<p>Provide additional learning support to children who are in stage 3 (grades 5 and 6) and are from refugee backgrounds. The program supports children who require additional academic support as they prepare for the transition to high school. Tutors work closely with children and their teachers in the delivery of a personalised learning plan, which has been agreed by all parties. There is a strong focus on improving the students English language skills, and developing their skills for learning in the classroom. Tutors may support children one-on-one or in small groups, within the classroom or in nearby withdrawal rooms.</p>
What will you get out of it?	<p>Experiencing the diversity and richness of other cultures. Contributing to a community focused program with the aim of empowerment and capacity building. Opportunities for ongoing training and learning new skills. A rewarding and fulfilling experience in helping others. Experience a well-supported volunteer program with training and help always available</p>

How long is the commitment?

Typically, 1.5-2.5 hours per week during school term. Contact times are within school time and are negotiable. Volunteers commit to a minimum of 4 school terms – *but we'd love you to sign up for more.*

Want to know more?

For more information, call us on 4621 5557 or apply directly at spark.vinnies.org.au



IMPACT

SPARK's key aim is that families and children from a refugee and asylum seeker 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 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 7 schools in Western Sydney and works with several community partners within Fairfield, Liverpool and Cumberland local Government areas.

SPARK reaches up to 200 children on a weekly basis. SPARK also engages and supports families and siblings through workshops, excursions and support based programs.

Join our volunteer team! Fill in an application form at spark.vinnies.org.au



"[Participant]'s confidence is an ongoing source of inspiration."

- SPARK Volunteer

"It has been so helpful to have an extra body in the classroom. The one on one is so helpful. I know that student is alright because I know the volunteer has the expertise needed."

- Teacher