

Contact

If you are from a school and would like to hear how Passion for Learning can help your pupils please contact **Diane Clark** (Managing Director) who will arrange to visit at your convenience.

diane.clark@passion-for-learning.com

Mobile: 07966 404355

Landline: 0151 356 8717



If you would like to volunteer to become part of this organisation please contact **Viv Couche** at **viv.couche@passion-for-learning.com**



Volunteers can make a child's day! On the occasion of her visit with the Prince of Wales to see the work of Passion for Learning at the Lache Primary School, September 2014, the Duchess of Cornwall took the time to read with a reception year pupil. Picture by Shirlaine Forest, produced by kind permission of Clarence House and Getty Images.

**Tell me I forget, teach me and I remember,
involve me and I learn** - Benjamin Franklin

**Education is what remains after you have forgotten
what you learned in school** - Albert Einstein

**You can teach a pupil a lesson for a day, but if you can teach him to
learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as
long as he lives** - Clay P Bedford

Passion for Learning C.I.C.
C17, Stanlaw Abbey Business Centre,
Dover Drive, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH65 9BF
www.passion-for-learning.com
Landline: 0151 356 8717

**PASSION FOR
LEARNING** 

PASSION FOR LEARNING



The background

Passion for Learning (PFL) is a Community Interest Company founded to tap into the wealth of knowledge and skill that exists within our communities.

PFL recognises how properly trained volunteers can play a crucial role in helping children to develop the basic learning skills that a child needs to read and succeed in school. Much research demonstrates that individual support is the single most effective intervention in raising the attainment of children and young people.

Passion for Learning works with schools in Cheshire and the Wirral, placing trained community volunteers with children who are in greatest need of support.



The concept

Children who are engaged at school, have the skills associated with effective learning and are able to read, are likely to do well and enjoy their school years.

Problems with learning, reading and writing affect children's confidence and enthusiasm, making them more likely to give up or struggle with learning. Our intervention is designed to support children before they become disengaged with school life and learning in general.

Volunteers are recruited and given training so that they can spend at least half an hour one-to-one to support three or four children for a minimum of two sessions every week in the safe

environment of their school. The sessions are designed around the child's interests to develop their basic learning skills and provide the social and emotional support that is so essential to early learning.

The input of a volunteer tutor can make a massive difference to the lives and futures of these children by raising their aspirations, inspiring self belief and boosting their skills so that they can identify and then achieve their goals, sometimes by just making them feel special.

Relevance today

The intensity of personal communication via the internet with news feed and social media being such an important part of young people's lives has meant that the written word and communication in general is more important than ever. As never before, every pupil will have to process more language than their parents or grandparents.

In a curriculum focused day, there might be little or no opportunity for teachers to take time out from the teaching of core subjects, to catch up with individuals who face specific hurdles.

This individual time allows the child:

- to be heard
- to develop their interests
- to build the confidence and self-esteem that underpins achievement

In addition to providing time for reading, research recognises the importance of a nurturing approach to teaching. One-to-one care means that in the midst of school life, there is a chance for the child to catch their breath and learn in a way that complements their individual style, using games and other activities to develop the skills required to become an effective learner.

What makes an inspirational volunteer tutor?

Passion is catching and many children need introducing to the idea of any kind of learning being interesting.

A volunteer is ideally placed to bring fresh interests and fun to the experience of school. The learning is child centred and often child initiated and, through interaction with the volunteer, is designed to develop the type of learning that we engage in as adults, driven by motivation and sustained by ambition.

With safeguarding at the heart of everything, volunteers are well supported with regular briefings and training to ensure that their experience of the role is as beneficial for them as it is for the school and pupils. Highly valued, these volunteers give their time - up to 3 hours a week for a minimum of twice a week to help children feel comfortable and confident with every aspect of their learning.

We know from discussions with Head Teachers that there is tremendous demand for this project. A highly trained volunteer workforce offers a solution to the problems of insufficient time and resources available within schools to meet the many and diverse needs of the children attending.

Volunteers can be any age, male or female, from all walks of life and value the opportunity to contribute to the families of their communities.

A passion for learning can be kindled at any age but for school children to realise their full potential it is most beneficial in the younger years. Passion for Learning volunteers work with children from Nursery up to Year 6 - 11 year olds leaving primary school. Our work in Early Years is particularly exciting and specifically designed to support this crucial early stage in a child's school life, working alongside staff in the school setting, to support and nurture early experiences of learning.

