Pioneer Role Description
(Voluntary role)

"It's been a life-changing experience. Last week I read a book to my grandson. I never read to my children because I couldn't." Peter, from Read Easy Poole

Read Easy provides free, confidential, one to-one reading coaching for adults who struggle with reading, through a network of volunteer groups. Read Easy groups are changing the lives of individual adults across the country by providing them with the support they need to learn to read, and in turn opening doors for them to all sorts of new opportunities in life. You can read about the difference Read Easy makes here on our website.

Outline of the Pioneer role

If you thrive on networking and making new connections, this vital and interesting short-term role offers you the opportunity to be instrumental in setting up a new Read Easy group, whether working independently, or with other Pioneers. Pioneering a new group can take six months or more depending, in part, on how much time you have available. It can also lead on to other volunteering opportunities within the new group.

How we will support you

Setting up a new Read Easy group can be a very worthwhile and rewarding experience. It requires commitment, as the Pioneer creates the foundations of the new group. You will be provided with the Pioneer Handbook, training/induction, policies and guidance needed for this role and support from a Read Easy UK Regional Adviser. You will also be invited to Read Easy UK's regional forums and annual conference which give volunteers an opportunity for networking with other groups.

What you will be doing

- Be out and about in your area **networking with relevant organisations** to establish both the interest in Read Easy and the support there would be for starting a new group.
- **Publicising the project in your community** and holding an information meeting to bring all interested parties together with your Regional Adviser
- Using your skills to **recruit** and interview volunteers to set up a new Read Easy group in your area, alongside your Regional Adviser.
- **Arranging a meeting** for the new Management Team to affiliate with Read Easy UK
- Liaising with your Regional Adviser

The skills you will need

- The confidence to promote the work of Read Easy and network with local organisations.
- A strong commitment to improving the lives of people who struggle with reading.
- Good communication, organisational and people skills.
- Reasonable confidence in using IT.
- Self-motivation and the ability to use initiative and work independently.
- A willingness to abide by Read Easy policies and procedures.
- An open professional attitude that encourages two-way communication.
- A willingness to ask for advice and support when necessary, and to feedback to the Regional Adviser at regular intervals.
- A non-judgemental attitude and respect for others, with a commitment to equality and diversity, so that you can make everyone feel valued and included.
- Energy and enthusiasm with an average of three to six hours a week to commit to the role.

What is in it for you?

- Meet and work collaboratively with new people.
- Be active and engaged, adding value to your local community.
- The opportunity to take up another rewarding role in your new local Read Easy group.

Interested?

If you think you can offer the time, skills and experience that we are looking for and would be interested in taking up this role, please complete this form. You can also view our Pioneer Brochure here.

Please note: All Read Easy volunteer roles are subject to Safer Recruitment procedures which include verification of identity and two references.

To find out more about Read Easy UK, visit our website at: www.readeasy.org.uk