

READ International delivers collaborative, student led initiatives to improve access to education across the world and increase youth participation in their community. Our vision is to achieve a world where young global citizens achieve development through the power of education.

Working with sixth form students

We recognise the added value of engaging more young people through a school based volunteering project. Within the education curriculum there are limited opportunities for young people to gain hands on leadership experience, take on a position of responsibility, and develop the key skills that will make them more employable. Working in partnership with v, READ International's new Youth Leadership programme offers sixth form students exciting volunteering opportunities. The volunteering, based within their school or college, will not only help them to develop new skills but will also have a lasting social impact on both their local and global communities.

The programme

The Young Leaders Project aims to create a national network of young leaders in secondary schools in England to support other young people to take social action in their local communities. Young people in Year 12 and Year 13 will lead a social enterprise community project collecting disused books from their schools and local communities. They fundraise to cover the costs of sending the books to under resourced schools in East Africa. The Youth Leaders are supported by our student-led regional book projects, based at local universities.

A READ Young Leader Book Project is run by 5 young leaders, engaging a wider team volunteers within the school, and mobilising the local community to get involved by donating books and supporting fundraising activities. They are tasked with developing a project to **collect 5,000 books** and **fundraising £2,000** to contribute to the costs for shipping these books to East Africa.

READ International will provide support for the Young Leaders and school to participate in the programme. Our staff and student volunteers will visit to school to provide training and support for Youth Leaders to develop and implement their own project brief. We will provide a suite of resources to support fundraising and book collections including book bins, top tips, and marketing materials. Each school will receive a regular e-newsletter to share achievements and achievements; supporting resources, materials, and guidance on our website.

To help volunteers recognise their achievements in terms of personal and skill development, plus community impact, we will use the vawards. Young Leader will complete a vaward to promote their achievements and share their story to help inspire others to volunteer.

To incentivise Young Leaders to meet their book collection and fundraising targets we will continue to offer two Young Leaders the opportunity to be a School Ambassador role, joining our national youth advisory board to feed into all aspects of the programme design, implementation, and evaluation. This will be based on their project's performance, personal contribution and a short application.

Inspired?

We're looking to recruit schools across the UK to participate in this exciting programme which will begin during the Autumn Term 2011. If you'd like to find out more about this project contact:

Emma Piper

Youth Engagement Manager

Emma.Piper@readinternational.org.uk

(020) 3031 9116

We look forward to hearing from you!