



Volunteering with PRG

Below are the volunteering opportunities we currently have at PRG. We are also open to requests to visit Prison Reading Groups.

1. Store day volunteers

Every two months, we visit our storage office in West London to sort and pack books to send to Family Days. We usually send out books for 10 family days at a time – so around 600 books!

We would love help from volunteers who can help choose age suitable books, as we are sending books for ages ranging from babies to 18 year olds.

Our partner charity Give a Book also has store day opportunities, where volunteers help sort and pack books for a variety of children's and adult projects, including sending books to custody suites, school libraries, and refuge centres.



2. Family Day Volunteers

About Family Days

Family Days enable prisoners and their partners and children/grandchildren to spend more time together than is possible in a regular visit. They usually last 4-5 hours and include lunch. PRG provides an age-appropriate book and a Give a Book bookbag and accessories for each visiting child.

The role of the volunteer

Where possible, we offer volunteers to help on the day. In some prisons, where there is a dedicated book corner, the volunteer may be located there, on hand to give out the book bags and encourage children and parents to spend time together

with the books. In other prisons, the volunteer may circulate among the families, perhaps handing out the book bags and chatting.

Once we pair a volunteer with the prison contact, we encourage you to liaise directly with each other to discuss ideas and local conditions. This may include issues such as whether the books need to be individually allocated in advance or whether children can choose from relevant age bands. We also ask volunteers to report back on the experience and to make suggestions.

PRG volunteers do not work unsupervised and are not usually required to have a CRB/DBS check. You will need to submit your name in advance and to bring photo ID that matches the submitted name.

3. Reading Group Volunteers

Volunteering with a reading group is a more regular, long term volunteer commitment as the volunteer will help facilitate a monthly reading group inside a prison with the support of prison and library staff.

All our reading groups currently have a dedicated volunteer on board, but we are always setting up new groups and volunteer opportunities often crop up. If you would be interested in getting involved, please get in touch with the following information:

- Where you are based
- Your nearest prison(s). You can look this up here:
<https://www.justice.gov.uk/contacts/prison-finder>
- Why you are interested in volunteering with a reading group

Please contact Olivia Loveridge on admin@prg.org.uk if you would like to get involved with any of these opportunities.