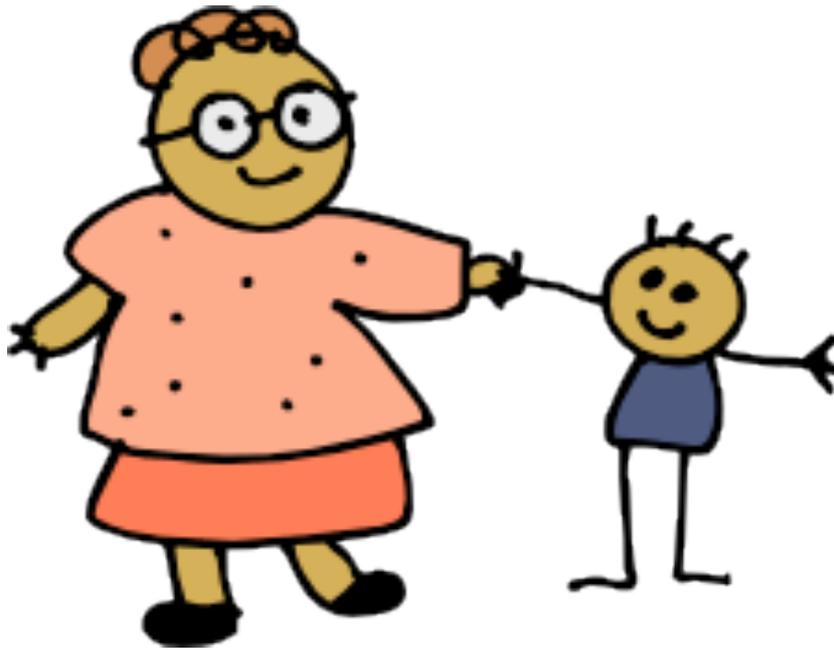




# Sir Thomas Abney Primary School

'A good school that helps everyone to do their best' - Ofsted Report

# Parent & Carer volunteers in our school



## What to expect...

## **Q What is a Parent/carer volunteers?**

A parent/carer helper is any parent, carer or guardian who can spare time to help us out in school with different activities or on class trips.

## **Q How much time would it take and how often should I come?**

You can help for the whole session (morning/afternoon), or even just one hour - just let us know.

## **Q What will I be expected to do?**

Nothing you don't feel comfortable with. You could help with anything that is part of the normal session - cooking, art, playing games, reading stories etc... If you have a special talent or skill that you would like to use in the classroom, please let a member of staff know.

## **Q Are there any jobs that don't involve working with children?**

Yes, lots! Photocopying, preparing fruit, filing work, sorting/cleaning resources etc...

## **Q Will I be left on my own with children?**

No. A member of staff will always be with you.

## **Q How will my child react to me being there?**

All children react differently. Most of them love having a special person in their life helping in the classroom. It will make them feel important and positive about school.

## **Q What if I have younger children at home?**

Unless you can arrange for friends or family to look after them, then I'm afraid we will have to wait for your help until your youngest child is at school. For many reasons, we cannot have younger siblings in the classroom.

## **Q Is there anything that I should be aware of about the work I will do in school?**

Being a helper may sometimes place you in a delicate situation. You may become aware of individual children's needs or witness specific incidents. If you have any worries or concerns about something that you see or hear, you **MUST** discuss this with a member of staff. Confidentiality must be respected at all times.

You may become aware of children who experience particular difficulties - perhaps in speech, behaviour, learning or hygiene. Please never talk to another parent about what a child was doing. No parent wants to hear from another parent that their child wet themselves, or had been crying, or been told off etc.. Parents/carers are always informed of important happenings by staff either when they collect their child, or by telephone.

## **Behaviour**

We expect certain standards of behaviour from our children and parent/carer helpers can support this by:

- Encouraging good manners and always allowing time for a child to say please and thank you
- Ensuring that children play sensibly and games do not involve rough play

- Encouraging children to take turns and be kind to each other

If you are concerned about a child's behaviour, please tell a member of staff who will deal with it according to school policy.

We do hope that you will be able to find the time to come and help occasionally and that you will enjoy your time with us.

You can be assured that your help is greatly appreciated!