## Campaign to tackle county's literacy gap needs volunteers

<u>Get Norfolk Reading</u> is a major campaign led by <u>Transforming Education in Norfolk</u> and aims to spearhead improvements in reading for 5 -11 year olds across Norfolk.

## Why do we need a reading campaign for Norfolk?

Primary school pupils in Norfolk are below the national average for reaching the Government's expected standards of reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling: latest data from the Department for Education shows that 63pc of pupils reached the expected standard for reading last year, below the national figure of 66pc.

**Get Norfolk Reading** will make direct impact on literacy for children in the county through the work of its charity partner <u>Beanstalk</u>. Beanstalk is a national charity with 43 years' experience of providing one-to-one reading support through recruiting volunteers into primary schools in their local communities. Last year almost 3,100 Beanstalk trained reading helpers supported over 11,000 children in almost 1,400 schools in England.

**99%** of schools agreed that their Beanstalk Reading Helpers made a significant impact on the children they supported.

'Delighted to hear about the Get Norfolk Reading initiative and support Beanstalk's trained reading programme.' Stephen Fry

'Schools have a responsibility to teach reading well and parents have a responsibility to help their child love books. Get Norfolk Reading can help us all to support this immensely important partnership and turn around the lives of children in Norfolk. Get involved!'

Clare Fletcher, Head of North Walsham Infant and Junior School

'Since our inception in Norfolk earlier this year, we are delighted by the growing numbers of schools and volunteers signing up with Beanstalk, however we are still in need of volunteers in many areas such as Dereham, Watton, North Walsham and the surrounding areas.'

Lily Law, Beanstalk Recruitment Executive

- Ready for a **fun and worthwhile new challenge** in life?
- Can you help children develop a love of reading and books?
- Do you have **time to give** three hours a week to a school near you?
- Would you like to **meet people** and become part of a new community?
- Would you like to develop new skills and receive professional training and support?

Yes? Then please <u>register now to become a Beanstalk Reading Helper</u>

GET IN TOUCH WITH US: http://getnorfolkreading.co.uk/ or email info@getnorfolkreading.co.uk

Interested schools please contact Lily Law lily.law@beanstalkcharity.org.uk