



REALISING CHILDREN'S POTENTIAL  
THROUGH EDUCATION

# SCHOOL VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS



SUPPORTING  
EVERY CHILD'S  
POTENTIAL

## OUR PROGRAMS

Each year over 1000 volunteers generously donate their time to help children from preschool through to high school, to develop the skills and confidence they need to succeed at school and in life.

Ardoch volunteers deliver a range of programs and the volunteering commitment varies accordingly. Individuals have the opportunity to volunteer weekly at one of our partner education sites through our volunteer programs.

These volunteers commit their time, skills and enthusiasm read with children, help them practice their writing, or learn about science and the world around them through play.

Without our volunteers, we could not achieve the positive impact that our programs are having for thousands of children in disadvantaged communities.

## CONTACT

To find out more about our education programs or becoming a partner,  
email: [volunteers@ardoch.org.au](mailto:volunteers@ardoch.org.au) or phone 1300 ARDOCH.



## EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS

Ardoch's Education Volunteers provide in-classroom literacy and STEM support to help children with reading, writing and language exercises aimed at improving their confidence, engagement and interaction with literacy.

We place screened, trained and vaccinated volunteers into early years centres and primary and secondary schools. Our volunteers are provided with ongoing support and training to help them make the biggest possible impact in the classroom.

Education Volunteers commit two hours a week for at least six months to the partner school or centre they are matched to. Our volunteers provide support at same time each week and usually work one-on-one with a student or a group of students who need extra help with their literacy or STEM skills.

They help children across a range of areas depending on needs, often using Ardoch's special STEM and literacy resource boxes to support activities aligned with early years curriculum.

## EARLY LANGUAGE & LITERACY

Our Early Language and Literacy (ELL) program supports children's school readiness and oral language and literacy development through targeted reading and writing activities.

Developed in collaboration with Deakin University, ELL draws on research about how best to support the language and literacy development of children in disadvantaged communities. Ardoch Education Volunteers with special training in the ELL program are placed with partner early years services to deliver a range of play-based activities that support learning and school readiness. These activities are delivered under the direction of the kindergarten teacher.



## CURIOUS YOUNG MINDS

Ardoch's Curious Young Minds Volunteers targets children's developing understanding of their world by engaging them in explorations of everyday STEM experiences.

Our volunteers work in early years settings with small groups of children aged four to five years. Curious Young Minds focuses on three complementary aspects of STEM literacy — knowledge, skills and thinking — and links them to language development during these early years.

The aim is to improve children's early STEM skills through exposure to STEM activities with a range of partners.

## WHY PARTNER WITH US

Ardoch's programs have proved effective in providing children and our education partners with practical and effective support to improve educational outcomes.

- **After six months with Ardoch support, 67% of students showed greater academic improvement than anticipated.**
- **79% of students showed greater confidence in their ability to learn.**

We work to help children and young people create their own vision for what they would like to be in the future, and inspire them to engage in their education. We provide real world experiences and trained volunteers so that children can practice and improve their skills to reach their full potential.