

Salisbury Primary Schools Consortium

C/O Wyndham Park Infants School
Somerset Road
Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP1 3BL

Contact: Mrs A Smith

Tel: 01722 334594

Email: admin@wyndhampark.wilts.sch.uk

Volunteer development information towards the **Burning Ambition** multi primary school Olympic Flame project for 2012

A major part of the community development within this art project is the new direct involvement and training of adult/parent volunteers to not only support this specific workshop programme but to learn new easily repeatable and expandable arts skills and also to experience the planning, delivery and actual “fun” of a community arts project. These volunteer participations and learning outcomes will develop a new self confidence to take part within future arts projects and also further encourage the creation and development of their own art based projects, within their wider community.

All of our primary schools are currently experiencing a developing reticence from new parents to actually participate within activities, or even to cross the threshold of their children’s schools. A growing sector of younger mothers particularly appear to lack self confidence in taking part within events and activities, often being embarrassed around possible failure and lack of knowledge, particularly within our more challenged housing areas and across Forces bases.

By inviting these new volunteers to take part and help to supervise and deliver this large, exciting and inclusive community arts project the percentage of future progressed and skilled adult arts volunteers will be considerably higher than a traditional one school/one event project.

The lead Artist has proposed a simple volunteer training programme where participating parents/adults can come along to a one hour **Burning Ambition** practical workshop, learning the skills of the **Burning Ambition** pennant making and also being softly taught simple areas of child/parent involvement psychology.

These volunteer training sessions will take place at every fifth school, which will mean travel for some volunteers to take part. (We are investigating the use of school busses for such transportation, alongside car sharing)

- Schools will be responsible for the child safety aspects of the attending volunteers.

The training sessions will be a maximum of one hour duration at each training venue, to fit within the active family lifestyle and other children commitments of these parent volunteers. Distances travelled will be relatively minor, allowing each volunteer training session to be delivered well within a traditional school morning or afternoon, current aim is for 10-11am and 1-2pm sessions.

Proposed volunteer session (to be further developed):

- Welcome to the project and thanks for participation
- Explanation of the project, workshops and Olympic Flame event outcome
- Benefits to the school and community
- Practical participative demonstration and active workshop “creating your pennant” Inc Brush skills, knowledge of dyes, textiles, colours, shape and form, simplicity of design, completion of the task, etc
- Guidance on forms of child support and encouragement pre, during and post the child workshops
- Suggestions on home preparing children to participate, particularly around behavioural issues
- Suggestions on home congratulation after the workshops
- Suggestions on extended family participation within the final event (particularly father participation)
- Offer of future volunteer participation and involvements in future community based projects, with the possibility of volunteer certification (to be investigated: arts awards, arts charity training courses, Extended Adult education through colleges, etc)