

# student2student Fact Sheet



**BECOME A BUDDY AND USE YOUR READING SKILLS TO HELP OTHERS**

## 1. WHY IS READING SO IMPORTANT?



If you enjoy reading and read well, you probably don't realise how important this skill is to your school work and everyday life.

There are many students your age and younger who have difficulty with reading. This makes it much harder for them to do well at school, leaving them with fewer choices and opportunities for the future.

We know that a great way to support students who are falling behind in their reading is for someone nearer their own age to read with them.

This is where you can help!

## 2. HOW DOES STUDENT2STUDENT WORK?

The Smith Family's student2student program is a unique and effective peer-to-peer reading support program which matches older Buddies (like you!) with younger student to help improve their reading skills, confidence and enjoyment.

### The role of The Smith Family:

- Match you to a younger student who is falling behind in their reading
- Provide training to help you understand the role of a Buddy
- Provide a handbook and other resources to help you best support your Reader
- Supply all the books (hard copy or digital) you need
- Support you through the whole program to help you with any questions or problems

### The role of our s2s Buddies:

- Attend training (at your school)
- Call your Reader 2-3 times a week for about 20 minutes each call and listen to them read
- Be supportive and encouraging to your Reader
- Be in regular contact with your school's student2student facilitator
- Commit to the full 18 week program (about 2 school terms)



"It was nice to help someone with their reading because I couldn't imagine life without that skill." Buddy

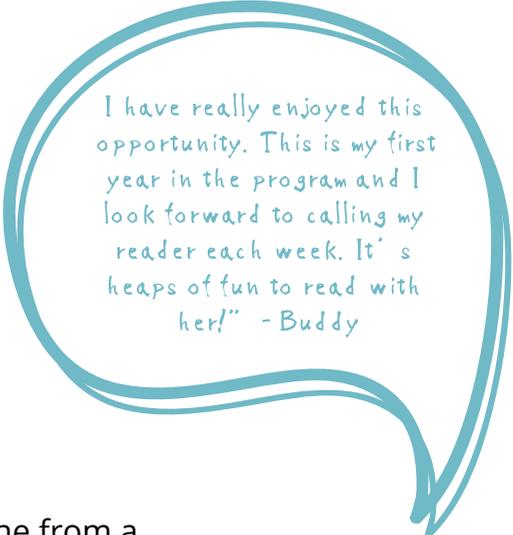
### 3. WHAT IS REQUIRED TO BECOME A BUDDY?

- To become a student2student buddy you will need to:
- Be in Years 7-12
- Have high literacy skill
- Have good communication skills
- Be friendly, positive and encouraging

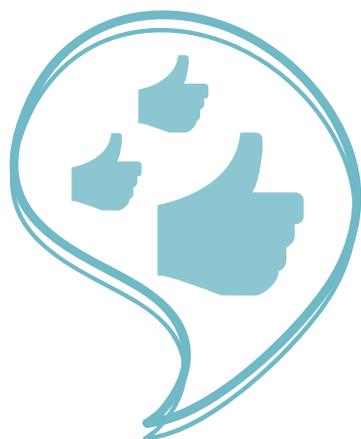
Appreciate the benefits of helping others, including someone from a different background

- Be able to commit to the full 18 week program

Have a suitable device (landline, mobile phone or computer) you can use to call your Reader



I have really enjoyed this opportunity. This is my first year in the program and I look forward to calling my reader each week. It's heaps of fun to read with her!" - Buddy



### 3. HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Sign up today by completing and returning the application form to your School Facilitator.

Experience the rewards of helping someone else and use your reading skills to make a difference in the life of another student!



"My son is doing so well in the s2s program - his reading has improved and he has really grown in his confidence. I am very thankful for this program and his outstanding buddy!"  
- Reader Parent