



# Words Take You Places Impact Summary 2020



**We are Doorstep Library**  
We believe in the power of words to take you places. We bring the gift of books and the joy of reading into the homes of families across London who need our support to inspire a love of books, of stories and storytelling, instilling a lifelong passion for reading.

## About us

We run 14 Doorstep Libraries across London

We're active in three London boroughs

500 children from 250 families read with us every week

More than 130 Home Reading Volunteers

Our readers borrow more than 20,000 books a year

Our priorities: Creating a passion for reading among children and their families

Inspiring a love of reading that encourages individual development

Using the power of words to benefit learning and future careers

Creating opportunities to engage with wider support networks

### A love of reading



- Children enjoy reading 36% more now
- Young readers now rate their reading ability as 4.7/5
- 94% report increased confidence reading

## Helping reduce children's barriers to reading

I don't have time 40% lower

My child prefers doing other things 40% lower

I don't really like reading 49% lower

English is not my first language 43% lower

I can't find books in my language 33% lower

We don't have many books 52% lower

I'm not a confident reader 41% lower

I don't really know how to go about it 42% lower

Parents rate their children's school's positivity about their relationship with books as 4.7 out of 5



70% of volunteers agree that the children they support are now more ready for nursery or school



Young readers now score their school reading at 94%

69% of families share positive reports from their child's school

Over half of books requested by children are linked to school subjects

27% increase in families feeling connected to their local community

98% of our volunteers now feel more connected to their community

69% of families have attended signposted services or activities

97% of our young readers rate us as Great! Yay! or Really Good

98% of parents look forward to the weekly sessions

## Why do we do it?

Just one story a day can expose a child to almost 300,000 words by age 5

25% of children in the country's poorest areas have fewer than 10 books

Reading can boost educational performance and access to employment

1 in 4 eleven year olds from disadvantaged backgrounds are unable to read or write properly

1 in 4 of London's children live in households experiencing poverty