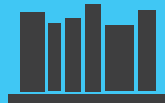




The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

US in Schools  
Mentoring  
Guide.





**The US in Schools Mentoring programme places current University of Sheffield students into local schools/colleges to work as mentors with a targeted group of young learners.**

The programme is designed to provide direct support for young people from backgrounds that are under-represented in Higher Education and have the academic potential to progress to university.

Selected mentees meet their Student Mentor in school/college for weekly 1-1 mentoring sessions, during term time, throughout the academic year. Each Student Mentor is placed in a partner school/college and matched with 4-6 mentees. Each weekly session will last 30 minutes in school/college but outside of the classroom environment. All the Student Mentors are DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checked and have undertaken appropriate mentor and safeguarding training.

Mentoring has improved my confidence in my education. Mentoring has been motivating and challenging.

Year 10 Mentee, Fir Vale School



*US in Schools Mentor*

My team had really uplifting people and we would share ideas in the taxi journeys as well as just encouraging each other. Also it was great to see mentees developing and achieving their SMART targets.

Zoe Li, Student Mentor at King Edward VII School

OPTIONS





## THE PROGRAMME'S MAIN AIMS ARE TO:

- ✓ Provide positive role models for local young people
- ✓ Increase the attainment of participating young people
- ✓ Raise awareness of Further and Higher Education options amongst under-represented groups
- ✓ Raise participants' confidence, self-esteem, and motivation
- ✓ Provide University of Sheffield students with the opportunity to gain in-school work experience
- ✓ Provide University of Sheffield students with the opportunity to evidence transferable skills

I really enjoyed seeing the progress the mentees made [...] it was really rewarding to know that I had made even a small difference, and helped the mentees with any difficulties they were having.

Daniel Manton, Student Mentor  
at Rawmarsh Community School



*Student Mentor Team*

Over the past few years students at our school have struggled to show resilience and have feared failure - I feel that mentoring this year was particularly successful in combating this.

Nick Green, Netherthorpe School

## UNIVERSITY VISIT

Mentees have the opportunity to visit The University of Sheffield campus whilst participating in the programme.

For Year 9 mentees, the University visit will incorporate academic taster sessions introducing mentees to the academic aspects of university life, a tour of the University campus, and lunch in the Students' Union.

For Year 12 mentees they will have the opportunity to visit the University on a pre-application Open Day, with mentor support, and a University Taster Day. Year 12 mentees also have a residential experience opportunity where they will stay overnight in University Accommodation. They will continue mentoring into the first few months of Year 13, to support them through the decision making period for their next steps.

Working with my mentor helped me a lot with time management and other skills, also made me more confident.

Year 9 Mentee,  
Sheffield Park Academy

## ONE-TO-ONE MENTORING

Student Mentors meet their mentees in weekly 1-1 mentoring sessions. Each weekly session will last 30 minutes in school/college but outside of the classroom environment. Student Mentors will support mentees to set agreed goals and work towards achieving their goals in the weekly sessions, reviewing these throughout the year.

Student Mentors support their mentees in variety of ways, topics they might cover include:

- Study skills, homework/coursework, and exam preparation support
- University student life and student finance
- Researching and considering their future options, education, and career direction

Our mentors are encouraged to focus on helping to build their mentees confidence, resilience, and love of learning. They hope to improve their attainment and raise their aspirations, directing them to sources of information to help them become independent learners, and make informed decisions about their future education and career choices.



*US in Schools Mentoring Session*

- Signpost useful learning resources based upon their own school experience for GCSEs, A Levels, and considering University Course options
- Personal development (e.g. self-confidence, resilience, and time management)
- Provide them with the opportunity to ask questions and develop their aspirations

Mentees will also have the opportunity to work together in a group session during the programme, which will include a mentor-led session introducing mentees to university life and help develop team working skills.



*Why Our Mentors Love Mentoring*



## END OF PROGRAMME EVENTS

At the end of the programme, Year 9 participants and their parents/carers are invited to visit The University of Sheffield for a graduation-style Celebration Evening. Each mentee is awarded a certificate, with special recognition for mentees who have engaged particularly well with the programme.

Mentees and their parents/carers can find out about University support services and social aspects of university at the 'Marketplace' organised for the start of the event. The 'Marketplace' will include representatives from different learning providers showcasing the range of options in the next stage of a mentee's educational journey.

*US in Schools Celebration'*

Year 12 mentees complete the programme in Year 13; along with their parents/carers, they are also invited to visit The University of Sheffield for a Celebration Evening.

## TUTORING

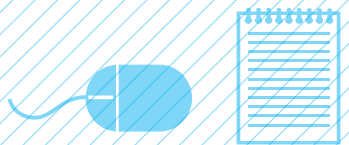
During the programme, Year 12 mentees can take advantage of a tutoring app on their mobile phone. Peer Tutor is designed for school/college students to get instant subject help when they need it most.

Every student involved now knows what to do in relation to Higher Education and one particular child has decided not to go [to university] but go into the army. The mentor was able to support this and look at them doing the best they can in relation to a career in the army.

Helen Yates,  
Saint Pius X Catholic High School

The best thing about working with a mentor is having someone to talk about my future.

Year 9 Mentee,  
Ecclesfield School



## FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information about US in Schools Mentoring, please take a look at our webpages or get in touch with the US in Schools Mentoring team:

**[www.sheffield.ac.uk/schools/programmes/mentoring](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/schools/programmes/mentoring)**

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