



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Parent/Carer
Guide.





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

The programme is designed to provide direct support for young people who have the academic potential to progress to university, who are from backgrounds that are currently under-represented in Higher Education or have no family tradition of going to university.

Specially trained University of Sheffield student mentors are allocated 4 – 6 mentees in one of our partner schools. They meet with their mentees each week in school during term time throughout the academic year. All the student mentors are DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checked and have undertaken appropriate mentor and safeguarding training.

Mentoring pushed me to step out of my comfort zone and helped me to genuinely gain confidence.

Year 9 Mentee,
Netherthorpe School



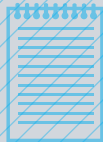
Fir Vale School Mentors

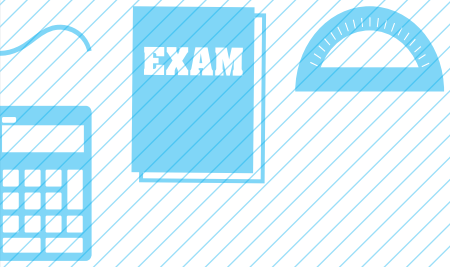
The confidence of our students has improved as well as a clearer understanding of courses available post 16 and what they need to achieve in order to reach their career goals.

Sally Latham,
Clifton Community School

TURE

OPTIONS





THE MAIN AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME ARE:

- ✓ To provide positive role models for local young people
- ✓ To increase the attainment of participating young people
- ✓ To raise awareness of Further and Higher Education options amongst under-represented groups
- ✓ To raise confidence, self-esteem, and motivation of the participants

Overall development in confidence and self-belief, the opportunity to have meaningful conversations about their future and to identify and celebrate their strengths is priceless.

Rachel Mullins,
Rawmarsh Community School



King Edward VII School Mentors

I found it most useful when talking about the university and what options there are. I went into these meetings oblivious of what was involved and that has changed.

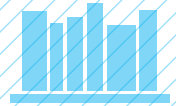
Year 10 Mentee,
Eckington School

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS VISIT

As part of the programme your child will have the opportunity to visit The University of Sheffield. The visit will include a mentor-led session introducing mentees to university student life, a tour of the main University campus, and lunch in the 'Award Winning' Students' Union. Schools bring all mentees onto campus together and are looked after by the mentor team and staff from the University.

The most useful part of mentoring was talking with my mentor independently and not in groups because we could talk about my career goals.

Year 10 Mentee,
Clifton Community School



ONE-TO-ONE MENTORING

Student mentors meet their mentees in weekly 1-1 sessions in school but outside of their normal classroom environment. The mentors will help and support their mentees set and achieve goals/targets which are set together at the start of mentoring and reviewed throughout the year.

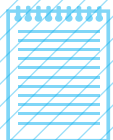
Mentors help in variety of ways:

- Helping them to develop and explore new study skills
- Support them in the completion of coursework, exam preparation, revision or homework
- Proof reading written work and giving constructive feedback
- Signposting useful learning resources based upon their own school experience
- Helping them research and consider their future options, education, and career direction
- Giving them the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about Higher Education
- Providing them with the opportunity to develop their aspirations



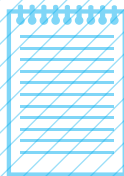
Mentoring Session

Student mentors are also encouraged to work with their mentees on issues like self-worth, persistence, confidence building and goal setting. Developing these skills helps to increase aspirations to Higher Education, raise attainment, improve vocational progression and ultimately, widen the participation of under-represented groups at university.



My mentor helped me to improve all my skills like confidence, public speaking, independence and more.

Year 9 Mentee,
Ecclesfield School



Parkwood Academy Mentees at the Celebration Event



Mentee Speaker from Saint Pius X Catholic High School

CELEBRATION EVENT

At the end of the programme, all mentees and their parents/carers are invited to visit The University of Sheffield for a graduation-style Celebration Event.

Mentees and their parents/carers can find out about the support services and the social side of university in our 'Marketplace' at the start of the evening. There will also be representatives from different learning providers to help mentees discover the range of options in the next stage of their educational journey.

Each mentee is presented with a certificate. Special recognition is given for mentees awarded as 'Mentee of the Year' for their school, who have engaged particularly well with mentoring and made significant progress throughout their time on the programme.

Many students struggled with confidence and rarely answered questions in class; however, three of these students bravely and confidently took to the stage at the university and delivered a public speech - a very good example of how much those particular students have progressed.

Nick Green,
Netherthorpe 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/outreach/pre16/mentoring/parents

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