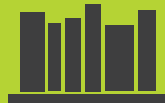




The
University
Of
Sheffield.

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

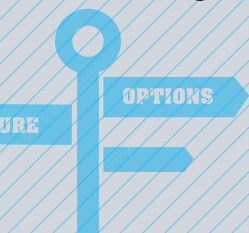
Year 9 Mentee,
Netherthorpe School

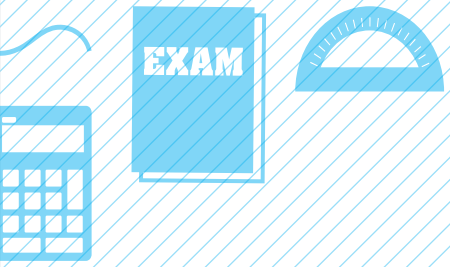


Fir Vale School Mentors

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





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



Mentoring Session

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 VISIT

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

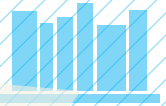
For Year 9 mentees, the University visit will incorporate academic taster sessions introducing mentees to the academic aspects of university life, a tour of the University campus, and lunch in the Students' Union.

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.

All mentees are looked after by Student Mentors 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



Mentoring Session

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 set agreed goals and achieve their goals by working towards them in the sessions and reviewing these throughout the year.

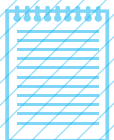
Student Mentors support their mentees in variety of ways, topics they might cover include:

- Study skills, homework/coursework, and exam preparation support
- University student life and student finance

- Researching and considering their future options, education, and career direction
- 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 halfway through the programme, which will include a mentor-led session introducing mentees to university life and help develop team working skills.

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.



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

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.



Celebration Evening



Mentee Speaker from Saint Pius X Catholic High School

Year 12 mentees complete the programme in Year 13; along with their parents/carers, they are 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.

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

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)**

UK Student Recruitment
and Widening Participation
The University of Sheffield
Arts Tower, Level 3
Western Bank
Sheffield
S10 2TN

T: 0114 222 1027

E: mentoring@sheffield.ac.uk

 [@USinSchools_UOS](https://twitter.com/USinSchools_UOS)

