



The
University
Of
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University
Student
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.

As a trained US in Schools Mentor you will be placed in one of our local partner schools and allocated 4 – 6 mentees. Mentoring is a regular commitment and is a weekly 4 hour timeslot that fits around your timetable. You will meet with your mentees in school during school term time throughout the academic year, with all return travel from university campus to school paid and arranged for by the programme. You will complete a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check and attend all compulsory training including initial mentor training, child safeguarding training, and Continued Professional Development training sessions.

Mentoring provides a fantastic development opportunity for students who are particularly interested in teaching or youth work, or for those students wanting to enhance their transferable skills. For those students pursuing a career with young people we are able to offer an optional block placement in a school at the end of the summer term.



Developing relationships with my mentees and experiencing the school environment again as it gives you a larger appreciation of schools as institutions, and also seeing how you can add to the development of a mentee is extremely fulfilling, more so than other jobs I have had.

Tom Dabbs
Tupton Hall School



Team Fir Vale

I really enjoyed creating and using my own resources for my mentoring sessions as it allowed me to be creative as well as educational during my sessions whilst keeping my mentees engaged.

Ayah Mahmoud
Sheffield Park Academy



Team King Edwards

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 confidence, self-esteem, and motivation of the participants
- ✓ To raise awareness of Further and Higher Education opportunities amongst under-represented groups
- ✓ To provide University of Sheffield students with the opportunity to gain in-school experience
- ✓ To provide University of Sheffield students with the chance to evidence transferable skills

Being able to boost the confidence of my mentees by recognising their qualities, effort and achievements was a rewarding feeling because I know how vulnerable your self-esteem is at that age, and how important it is for your wellbeing and academic development.

Olivia McComb
King Edward VII School

ONE-TO-ONE MENTORING

As a student mentor you would interact with your mentees on a regular one-to-one basis in school but outside of their usual classroom environment.

The content of the sessions and action plans are agreed between mentors and mentees, but topics you might cover include:

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





Class of 2019



THE ROLE

- This is a paid work opportunity
- Weekly 4 hour commitment (3 hours in-school mentoring and 1 hour preparation), plus travel time for 15 – 17 weeks during school term time, across both semesters
- You will be working in a local school as a role model and mentor for 4 – 6 young people
- You will work with other student mentors in a mentor team to plan and deliver small groups activities, as well as a University Campus Visit
- You will be an ambassador for the University
- The role will contribute to your HEAR
- The role will support Initial Teacher Training and graduate job applications with references supplied by the programme coordinator

I really enjoyed getting to know the rest of my team because we could really support one another and became good friends!

Josie Batchelor
Fir Vale School

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS VISIT

As part of the programme mentees from each school have the opportunity to visit The University of Sheffield. The visit will include a mentor-led session introducing mentees to student life, a tour of the main University campus, and lunch in the Students' Union. Each mentor team will work together to plan a deliver their mentor-led session and will work individually to create a personalised tour for their allocated mentees.



Mentoring Session



Experience of working with secondary school students ... I need the experience in order to apply to become a teacher. Aside from this, getting to know mentees, other mentors of different disciplines and seeing the development.

Joanne Grundy
Netherthorpe School



Team Birley

CELEBRATION EVENT

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

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. Mentees of the Year are selected by the student mentor team.

You will also receive a certificate, and receive an additional award if you are nominated for the following: 'Mentor of the Year', 'Mentor Team of the Year', or 'Mentor of the Month'.

END OF PROGRAMME SCHOOL PLACEMENT

At the end of the summer term, we offer mentors the opportunity to participate in a block placement at one of our partner schools. The placement is full time, usually for a period of 1 or 2 weeks depending on the availability of staff in the school. This is an excellent opportunity for any student considering a career in teaching or in the wider field of youth work and education.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

- Regular part-time paid employment whilst you study
- Enhanced employability
- Mentor training by a Mentoring and Befriending Foundation 'Approved Provider'
- Experience of working with young people
- Experience of working within a school environment
- Information and support with initial teacher training applications
- The chance to 'give something back' to the local community
- Support other pupils from a Widening Participation background
- Hours worked on the project can be used towards your HEAR and other awards

I was nervous at the start of the programme and almost didn't even apply for the job, but I'm so glad that I did as I've had an amazing experience and developed in so many ways.

Amy Grierson
Netherthorpe School

HOW TO APPLY

The US in Schools Mentoring programme is open to current University of Sheffield students who:

- Will be in their second year or above and progressing well academically on their course
- Have personal experience of the UK education and qualification system
- Are friendly, approachable, and have excellent communication skills

We are particularly interested in hearing from you if:

- You are from a group currently under-represented in Higher Education
- You are the in the first generation of your family to go to university
- You have participated in outreach activities whilst at school/college
- You overcame barriers in your education and/or personal life to progress to university

You should have a keen interest in working with young people and supporting the local community. You should also have an understanding of the widening access to Higher Education agenda.

Go online to find out more about the programme:

www.sheffield.ac.uk/outreach/pre16/mentoring

If you are interested in applying to for the role and to see the job descriptions, please go to:

www.sheffield.ac.uk/outreach/ambassador

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions about the programme, please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the team;

US in Schools Mentoring
UK Student Recruitment & Widening Participation
Level 3, The Arts Tower
Western Bank
Sheffield
S10 2TN

T: 0114 222 1027

E: mentoring@sheffield.ac.uk

 @USinSchools_UOS

 USISMMentees

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Higher Education
Achievement Report

