

Learning Mentor Role Description

What are you committing to? We ask all our learning mentors to commit to visiting the young person for at least one hour each week (excluding travel time) during a placement period of at least 6-12 months (commitment length will be decided before hand depending on young person's needs). If you are unable to make this commitment or have a holiday of more than 7 days planned during your placement, please let us know as soon as possible.

Role Description

- * To work with a child or young person from a refugee background in order to provide support with homework and study skills, and improving their opportunities for accessing learning
- * To enhance the young person's confidence and self-esteem, and to encourage high (but realistic) expectations and aspirations
- * To work sensitively and appropriately with the young person and his/her family, being aware of cultural difference, personal boundaries and the power dynamics at work in all mentoring relationships
- * If the young person is preparing for GCSEs, to provide subject-specific support and assistance with revision and preparation for exams
- * To promote the young person's understanding and use of English
- * To engage as much as possible with the young person's parent or carer and ensure that they are involved in the mentoring process as much as is possible
- * To undertake induction and training required for this role, for example Child Protection training
- * After initial introductions, to take responsibility for arranging weekly sessions directly with the family, and letting them know if you are sick or unable to attend
- * To keep a record of visits and complete any monitoring and evaluation as necessary
- * To report any concerns which might arise within the family to us straight away by phone or email
- * To be committed to our project's policies on Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety and Confidentiality (copies provided at training/induction), and to promote Equal Opportunities whenever possible.

Person Specification

Essential:

- * A sensitivity to other cultures and an ability to communicate successfully across cultures

- * Good rapport with children and young people
- * A desire to stretch the expectations and achievements of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds
- * Familiarity with study skills/problem solving approaches to working
- * Subject-specific knowledge in one or a number of examination subjects at GCSE and/or A level (only required if working with young person preparing for GCSEs)
- * Reliability and commitment
- * A level of flexibility and understanding in working around the family's timetable
- * A friendly, helpful, anti-discriminatory and enthusiastic approach

Desirable:

- * Previous experience of working with children or refugees
- * Knowledge of issues affecting refugee communities, particularly around education
- * Knowledge of UK education system