

## MENTORING PROJECT

Prior to being accepted as a Mentor:

- Provide two references
- Attend an interview
- Be CRB checked
- Provide copies of driving licence and insurance
- Be trained if necessary

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*AS A MENTOR what will you gain?*

- *An opportunity to work with young people.*
- *To experience a new working environment.*
- *Be provided with Support and supervision on a regular basis.*
- *Meet new people*
- *Make a difference*
- *Gain new skills; enhance the ones you have already.*



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*From The African Caribbean Support Service:*

*"To improve the lives of young people and enable them to become productive, responsible students by creating one to one mentoring relationships between at risk students and trained adult volunteers".*



For Further Information Please  
Contact:

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# African Caribbean

# Support Service

**SUPPORTING YOUNG  
PEOPLE  
THROUGH EDUCATION**

**Further  
Information**

**For  
Mentors**





MENTORING PROJECT



As part of the Government’s aim to raise standards in Education, Mentoring Projects have been introduced in various parts of the country in order to meet the needs and aspirations of young people. Through this initiative schools will be working towards removing barriers to learning faced by students, these can exist inside and outside school.

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This Project is funded by Bedfordshire County Council with European Social Funding, and is particularly aimed at African Caribbean Heritage student’s age 14 to 16 years old, who are experiencing problems and are at risk of social exclusion.

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Volunteer Mentors have had tremendous effect on students’ lives, in many cases transforming low achieving and unfocused students with low self – esteem and a lack of commitment into more confident students with higher grades, improved motivation and a sense of direction.

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Mentors will work with students on a one to one, one hour a week in school or at an agreed location. Mentors will also be involved in some extra interactive tasks.



We aim to put in place various activities to capture student’s interest during the school term (including holidays). Students will be given credits for achieving targets they have set themselves and we will arrange for awards to be presented to students involved.

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The Project will also link in with the Youth Service and Youth Groups to provide an opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills. It will also contribute to provide a complementary service to School Pastoral Staff and other outside agencies, such as Social Services, Education Welfare Officers, Exclusion Officers and Career’s Advisors.

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The Link Officer will with the Mentee, Mentor and staff provide an evaluation and a termly report on student’s progress. The Link Officer will also work with Parents/Guardians to encourage them to become more involved with their Son/Daughters education and School life. Regular meetings will take place between Link Officer, Mentor, School Representative and Parents to keep everyone informed.

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The Project will also arrange for ‘Taster Days’ so students can experience a work, social, Educational placement on the community.

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Our aim is to break down barriers to learning and unlock education opportunities for students.

When accepted as Mentor for the Project, Mentors will:

- Keep confidentiality – to promote trust and confidence
- Be provided with an I.D. card
- Have commitment to the Project
- Keep boundaries and remain professional at all times
- Be reliable, approachable, non judgemental and a realistic supporter – with students, parents and staff
- Be an active listener
- Actively observe
- Encourage
- Challenge assumptions
- Be a target Negotiator
- Act as a guide
- Be able to claim travel expenses, Link Officer will approve other expenses
- Keep a log of contact made with the student.
- Follow reporting policy if a student has revealed that they are a victim of Child Abuse or Mentor suspects that they have been
- Drugs and Alcohol – The Mentor will not consume either of these and will be dismissed from the Project forthwith. Support will not be provided if a student is identified as having consumed Drugs or Alcohol- See Policy
- Sexual Harassment will not be tolerated- See Policy

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There will be no contact with the Student once the match ends – unless it is for a specific mentoring activity

