EVERY CHILD NEEDS A MENTOR™

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MENTOR TRAINING FOR STAFF IN WEST LANCASHIRE SCHOOLS

EVERY CHILD NEEDS A MENTOR™



CHANGING LIVES, TRANSFORMING SCHOOLS.

TRAINING MENTORS TO CLOSE THE ATTAINMENT GAP - CASE STUDY

Seven schools from the West Lancashire Secondary Cluster took part in a countywide initiative to close the performance gap for Pupil Premium students in secondary schools in Lancashire.

Teachers and support staff from the schools, which included five maintained High schools, one special referral unit and one academy, were trained as mentors. This was a pilot project to see if academic mentoring could help a variety of schools and students with their inherently different needs and characteristics.

Assertive Academic Mentoring

The pilot was co-ordinated by Andrew Holt, Assistant Head:

"Our aim was to develop an Assertive Academic Mentoring programme for Pupil Premium students that addressed their dispositions, skills and motivational deficits. It needed to create mentors that could help give our students the right learning and study skills, personal organization and coping strategies to deal with their academic difficulties."

Every Child Needs a Mentor (ECNAM) was identified as a highly experienced and motivational organisation that matched the pilot's needs. Together with Andrew, ECNAM developed a programme to train school staff to act as assertive academic mentors and was also chosen to deliver that training and consult across the pilot.

The training was built around a practical approach based on considered knowledge, previous success and deep insight. The interactive training days were divided into separate developmental topics that were cumulative, engaging and challenging. There was also a mentor surgery session that explored some innovative approaches to mentoring.

"The mentor training was run in a highly professional manner, by people who have a great deal of expertise, enthusiasm, passion and which was delivered in an engaging and inspirational way."

Andrew Holt, Assistant Head teacher

Confident mentoring

The training raised the skills and confidence of school staff members who went on the course and as a result, student mentoring has improved dramatically. Mentors found that they had the strategies and confidence to deal with a wide variety of situations with their mentees.

Quotes from some of the attendees:

"THE HIGHLIGHT WAS REALISING THAT MY LIFE EXPERIENCE CAN BE USED AS PART OF MY RESOURCES TO HELP LIFT BARRIERS FOR CHILDREN IN THEIR LEARNING. ALL STAFF, TEACHING AND SUPPORT SHOULD HAVE THIS TRAINING"

"IT IS STILL EARLY FOR THE PILOT, BUT INITIAL ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT THE STUDENTS ARE FINDING THE MENTORING USEFUL TO THEIR STUDIES. AND THE FEEDBACK FROM MENTORS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONSHIPS ARE ALSO POSITIVE"

"IT IS ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR ALL STAFF WHO HAVE REGULAR CONTACT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AND IN PARTICULAR TEACHERS"
JON SHEPHERD, ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER

"VERY GOOD CLARIFIED THE AGENDA AND PURPOSE OF TRAINING. STEP BY STEP ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF MENTORING"
STEVE LOMAX, ACTING HEAD TEACHER

"THE TRAINING STIMULATED MY THOUGHTS ABOUT HOW I TEACH, MY APPROACH WITH THE PUPILS I WORK WITH AND THE NECESSITY OF THIS KIND OF SCHEME FOR ALL SCHOOLS"

"I WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND EVERY CHILD NEEDS A MENTOR TRAINING AND DO SO WITHOUT RESERVATION."
ANDREW HOLT, ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER

TO FIND OUT MORE, CALL US ON 0800-644-4881 FOR A FREE, NO OBLIGATION CHAT TO EXPLORE HOW WE COULD SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN, STAFF AND PARENTS.

If you would like to find out more, about how we could support your school, please contact: 0800-644-4881 or email Herman Stewart on hello@everychildneedsamentor.com