

CASE STUDY

mentoring

EBP
NATIONAL NETWORK

L O N D O N R E G I O N

Theme: Mentoring
EBP: CAMDEN EBP
Partners: Nabarro Nathanson
Students: 38 Year 10 students of South Camden Community mixed comprehensive School, Performing Arts specialist status

Aims

- To support students across the board rather than focus on a specific vocational area
- The brief was to set up and sustain a 1:1 relationship with the school that would encompass mentoring, homework support, careers advice, work experience and a range of possible other interventions
- Initially to run a face-to-face mentoring programme.

Procedure

The school chose students for whom it was felt that supportive intervention would enable them to reach their full potential, essentially the C/D borderline cohort.

Mentors from the company attended an initial training session that outlined the nature of mentoring with this age group; this included an input from a deputy headteacher from the school who outlined the nature of the student cohort and the school ethos.

The EBP co-ordinator ran a similar session for the students, where the expectations and benefits of the project were outlined. Following these meetings, a structured matching session, where the mentors met and had lunch with their students, was held at the school

Programme

The face-to-face mentoring with 19 students began in November 2003.

A new cohort of 19 students commenced a parallel programme in the Spring term.

Nabarro Nathanson have been active in the school in a number of other areas, including:

- A senior employee in the company is serving on the school's governing body;
- Over the last two years, they have taken part in the school's Year 11 Careers Day;
- They have provided work experience placements to the mentees.

Outcomes

Students have benefited through having an opportunity to relate to an adult role model, having support with their learning, including coursework, becoming familiar with the world of work and, crucially, greatly increasing their confidence and self-esteem. The Mentors have improved their listening skills, gained a knowledge of the problems facing young people and, importantly, had the satisfaction of being able to offer help and support.

Progression

With ongoing support from the EBP, including mentor support sessions, it is planned that the project will continue through to the students' taking their GCSEs

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Theme: Mentoring
EBP: SOUTHWARK EBA
Partners: Shell International
Students: KS4 students of Notre Dame Girls Catholic Comprehensive School

Aims

- The Head of Notre Dame School identified the need for students to work closely with senior women managers in order to broaden their experience and to receive support and guidance from non-judgmental, successful and effective women in business.

Procedure

Shell International has provided mentors for the past 6 years so the partnership between the company and one of its local schools is strong and well established.

Programme

Shell International on the South Bank is committed to working in partnership with Southwark and Lambeth Schools. This project is an important element of this partnership.

Outcomes

- Both partners report many benefits for all participants.
- Students gain quality time with a successful and effective adult;
- They also gain guidance and support for KS4 activities, courses and post16 applications;
- Mentors gain insight into students' and schools' circumstances and issues;
- They also learn more about the community where the business is located.

Progression

The project is an excellent example of the benefits, which are gained from a strong, long-term partnership between schools and local companies.

Each year, Shell International hosts an event to reward participants and formally thank their employees for the work they do with Notre Dame.