

The University of Manchester: FSE Offer Holder Mentoring

24 February – 30 September 2025



The mentee journey



Welcome/induction

Mentees (usually) attend an induction session either in school time or after school - mostly virtual



Chooses mentor

Complete matching quiz and review list of 'top 5' mentor matches - choose preferred mentor



Offboarding

Complete exit survey and download certificate if gained badges -Brightside encourages reflection



Signs up

Recruitment period - advertise mentoring opportunity for sign-up

Joins platform

Brightside invites mentees to join the platform by email - aim for mentees to join during live session

Messages mentor

Advised to message at least weekly -Brightside reports to school/partner and emails individual mentees



What can mentoring do for you?

Learn more about Higher
education and University of
Manchester

Develop skills that you can use now and carry forwards

You'll get...

Develop your communication and professional networking skills

Flexible mentoring to fit around your commitments

Someone kind and nonjudgemental to speak to about your future and aspirations

1:1, personalised support and advice to

help build your confidence



What could I discuss?



Organisation

Coping with change and

setbacks

Skills

development

Time

management

Building their confidence

Independent study

Writing skills

Study skills/ revision

> **Presentation** skills

Life at university

Apprenticeships

Applications

Future pathways knowledge

Alternatives to higher education

Future careers

University study

Work experience

Routes into your sector of interest



Goal Setting

Take 2 minutes to think about your goals and completing the below sentence



By the end of mentoring, I'd like to...

Improve my revision skills and try out 2 new ones

Be more confident with the idea of going to university

what qualifications I need

Understand

Know more about university

Improve my confidence in presenting and public speaking

Your mentor

- All mentors trained by Brightside especially to help you!
- Don't get stuck on a subject
- Read all their bios
- Check what you have in common

"I'm a 20 year old undergraduate at the University of York, studying Economics. I work part-time at a coffee shop and enjoy playing video games, and watching films and tv in my spare time. I occasionally climb at university and try and get out as much as possible.

11:12 D





Choose as mentor



Nick W.

I'm Nick, currently living in London and working in Business Development (sales) for a charity. I love watching tv, sports, reading, and gaming. I joined as a mentor because I wish I'd had someone to talk to when I was in Year 10 about what comes next, and I want to help you to think about all your options and what's right for you!

Location: London

Education: A degree in Politics and A Levels in History, Politics

Compatibility
Find out what you have in common









Mentoring boundaries

Counsellor

Mentor

Friend

Friendly

Expert

Experience

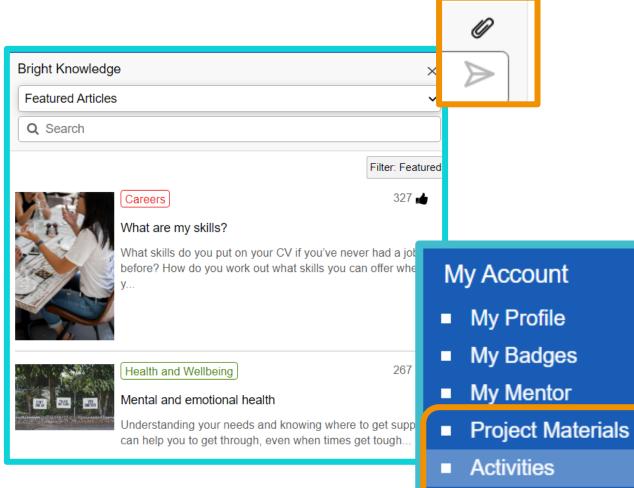
All communication must take place over the mentoring site, you won't be allowed to share mobile numbers or email addresses

"A comfortable space to learn from people with experience."





Your Resources



Conversation with Support Team (Spotlight DEMO project)

Hi Mentees!

I hope you are well and had a good weekend. Please see below for some topic ideas you could discuss with your mentor over the next week:

Sector deep dive

- Begin research into the areas you are interested in. Ask your mentor for help with this!
- Ask your mentor about key employability skills and identify your strengths in these.
- How can you further improve your employability skills?

Mock interviews and networking

- Have you ever had an interview before? What techniques did you use to prepare?
- Ask your mentor for interview top tips
- What is networking?
- · Ask your mentor if they have any tips for networking

Brightside will be in touch weekly with messages that contain some additional conversation ideas and guidance for your mentoring conversations – use these as much as is helpful

If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch!

Happy Mentoring!

Lauren



Automated Message Checks

- Picks up any links, attachments or stop words
- We review messages twice a day on weekdays

Pending approval - 8:06 AM

Can I add you on LinkedIn?

Your message is being checked by our team. Your mentor knows you've messaged them and will receive the full message once it's approved.

Message did not pass our checks - 8:06 AM

Can I add you on LinkedIn?

Reason: Sharing social media is not permitted for safety reasons.



Next steps



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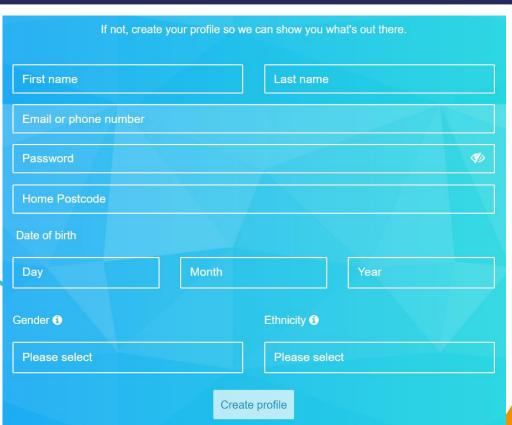
FGTOSD



1. Join online mentoring

- Find your email invitation from Brightside support: support@brightsidementoring.org
- Click on 'get started' in the email







Time to get set up!

- 2. Complete the self-assessment tool
- Click 'start' to answer a few questions



Mentoring can support you to achieve your goals











Get ready for mentoring by answering some questions

This will help you reflect on things you could chat to your mentor about



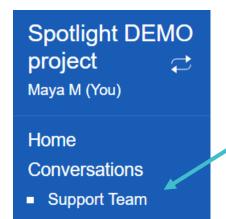
Takes 5 minutes



Time to choose your mentor!

3. Choose your mentor

Click 'find my mentor now' to get started!





Mahmood M.

Working professional with a non-uni route

Shipley

QUALIFICATIONS

BTEC Construction; Degree...

I CAN HELP YOU WITH

- Preparing for interviews
- Managing your finances
- Building your CV
- Finding careers and work experience

ABOUT ME

Hil I'm a Degree Apprentice working for Atkins as a Civil Engineer. I study Civil...

Read more about Mahmood M. ...



Maisy M.

Working professional with a non-uni route

Plymouth

QUALIFICATIONS

Level 5 Higher Apprenticeship in Care,...

I CAN HELP YOU WITH

- Preparing for interviews
- Managing your finances
- Building your CV
- Finding careers and work experience

ABOUT ME

Hello, I'm Maisy. I work in the NHS at Plymouth Hospital as a Healthcare...

Read more about Maisy M. ...



Michelle M.

Working professional who's been to university

Preston

QUALIFICATIONS

A Levels in Art, Graphic Design and...

I CAN HELP YOU WITH

- Choosing courses and subjects
- Revision and study techniques
- Writing university applications
- Finding careers and work experience

ABOUT ME

Hi! I'm a Graphic Designer from Lancashire who illustrates and watche...

Read more about Michelle M. ...



Activity: Sending your first message

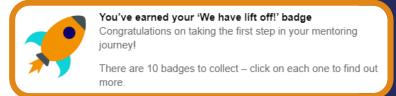
The first message formula!

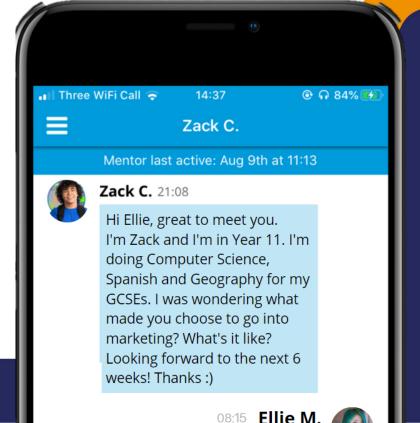
Name and year group Mentoring goal(s) Something you enjoy Question for your mentor

"Hi Sarah! I'm Josh and I'm in Year 12. My goals by the end of mentoring are:

- 1. To understand more about the support available to me at the University of Manchester
- 2. To learn more about jobs you can do with science (it's my favourite subject)

I enjoy playing football and going out for walks with my dog ³ What's the best part of your job?"







Activity: Sending your first message



Moderation

- Keeps everyone safe
- Links, attachments, stop words
- Checked AM and PM Mon-Fri

Pending Moderation - 8:34 AM

Hi Molly, I'm Maya and I'm in Y11 at school. My fav subjects are history, English and French because I like writing. In my spare time I like making TikToks and watching films:)

My goal for mentoring is to find out more about what I can do after Y11 because I only know about A levels so far..

Excited to get to know you!

Your message has been sent into the moderation queue. Once it is approved, it will be sent to the recipient.



Key Takeaways





Reflection

- Set goals with your mentor
- Keep notes on your learning
- Share your achievements



- Check in weekly
- Send detailed responses
- Complete activities
- Download the app



Responsibility

- Be polite
- Be proactive do your own research
- Take ownership



Thank you for listening!



Message 'Support Team' on the platform or email: support@brightsidementoring.org