



POSITIVE LINKS

Positive Links Mentoring

What is Positive Links?

Mentoring is an incredibly powerful tool in supporting social cohesion and improving the lives of vulnerable young people.

Positive Links is a mentoring scheme offering a structured programme of 1:1 mentoring support for vulnerable young people through the help of dedicated volunteer mentors.

The scheme aims to increase community engagement and inclusion by providing vulnerable young people with structured mentoring to improve their lives.

The young people we engage with are vulnerable for a variety of complex reasons and often suffer social exclusion. In some cases they are young offenders or individuals at risk of offending. What is important is that they experience the support and encouragement of positive personal relationships given by mentors. Our scheme aims to facilitate this to help foster desirable and appropriate behaviors. A successful outcome for the young person is a positive contribution to the communities that they are part of.

Volunteer mentors are pivotal to the service and are extremely valued in the work they do. It can be a rewarding process for the mentor, the young person and their families.

How Does It Work?

- Our mentoring scheme works in partnership with YOS and IFS. Referrals are made through these routes.
- Our service offers both short and long term mentoring but the length of the engagement is down to the needs of the individual.

- The scheme will support the mentor in building a purposeful relationship with the young person, guiding them through challenges and uncertainty, whilst encouraging and supporting them to make changes for the better.

Criteria for Mentoring

Mentors will need to be:

- Over 18
- Reliable
- A good communicator
- Be able to relate to young people
- Available to give 1-2 hours each week
- Able to invest your time getting to know the young person. Stability and continuity are paramount to the development of the relationship.
- Available to attend interview, training and supervisions
- Non - judgemental

Please note acceptance onto the mentoring scheme is subject to satisfactory references and a Disclosure and Barring Check (DBS)

Support for Mentor

We offer on-going support through:

- Great training provided at no cost to you
- On-going supervision and support
- Payment of out of pocket expenses

Phone 01472 361043 for an informal discussion or visit our web page on www.vanel.org.uk/mentoring for an application form.

