JOB DESCRIPTION

LEARNING MENTOR – LEVELS 1, 2, 3

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| **Job title**: | Learning Mentor – Levels 1, 2, 3 | | **Job Ref**: | XS 10a/b/c |
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| **Directorate:** | | Children’s Services | | |
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| **School:** | Schools | | **Grade**: | **XS 10a Dorset Grade 5**  **XS 10b Dorset Grade 7**  **XS 10c Dorset Grade 9** |
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| **Reports to**: | Senior nominated member of staff | | | |

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| **Main job purpose** |

Working under guidance: provide short term support in addressing the needs of a case load of pupils who are demotivated or disengaged to overcome a range of barriers to learning. This support is likely to include working individually with pupils, working with pupils in small groups, working with other parties/agencies including parents.

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| **Main responsibilities and duties** |

**Support for pupils**

1. Work with selected pupils out of the classroom situation. This could include pupils excluded from or otherwise not working to a normal timetable
2. Develop 1:1 mentoring arrangements with pupils which enable the pupil to agree plans and targets to move forwards
3. Provide information and advice to enable pupils to make choices about their own learning/behaviour/attendance
4. Provide support to pupils to enhance their emotional health and well-being (EHWB)
5. Help pupils to follow individual Education Plans where appropriate
6. Assist in organising and running small group interventions e.g. circle time
7. Promote the speedy/effective transfer of pupils across phases/integration of those who have been absent
8. Challenge and motivate pupils
9. Promote and reinforce self-esteem
10. Receive and supervise pupils excluded from, or otherwise not working to, a normal timetable
11. Act as a positive role model
12. Liaise with parents/carers as appropriate
13. Network with other learning mentors, teachers and professionals, eg educational psychologist

**Support for the teacher**

1. Support pupils’ access to learning using appropriate strategies, resources etc
2. Provide feedback on pupil’s progress as required
3. Maintain records as agreed with other staff, contributing to reviews as requested
4. Assist in the implementation of strategies to promote positive behaviour and attitudes

**Support for the curriculum**

1. Implement agreed learning activities/teaching programmes, adjusting activities according to pupil responses/needs
2. Be aware of and appreciate a range of activities, courses, organisations and individuals to provide support for pupils to broaden and enrich their learning

**Support for the school**

1. Be aware of and comply with policies and procedures relating to child protection, health, safety and security, confidentiality, equal opportunities and data protection, reporting all concerns to an appropriate person
2. Contribute to the overall ethos/work/aims of the school
3. Attend and participate in relevant meetings as required
4. Participate in training and other learning activities and performance development as required
5. Recognise own strengths and areas of expertise and use these to advise and support others
6. Supervise pupils on visits, trips and out of school activities as required
7. Clerical/admin support e.g. dealing with correspondence, making phone calls etc
8. Promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people in accordance with the school’s safeguarding and child protection policy.

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| **Knowledge & skills** |

**Experience**

* Experience of working with children of relevant age
* Experience of working with pupils with additional needs

**Qualifications**

* Numeracy and literacy skills equivalent to Adult Basic Skills level 2
* Completion of the National Learning Mentor training is desirable

**Knowledge/Skills**

* Working knowledge of relevant policies/codes of practice and awareness of relevant legislation
* Working knowledge of national curriculum and other relevant learning programmes
* Understanding of principles of child development and learning processes and in particular, barriers to learning
* Developing knowledge of Local Authority, local and national organisations which can provide services and activities to support pupils and broaden and enrich their learning
* Ability to relate well to children and in particular to motivate children to engage in the learning process
* Ability to work effectively with parents/carers and a range of professionals

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| **Progression in Post (if applicable)** |

Progression to Grade 7 will be subject to the achievement of Level 3 NVQ 3 in Learning and Development and Support Services for Children, Young People and Those who Care for Them or Level 3 NVQ in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools or an appropriate specialist qualification at or above Level 3 NVQ.

Progression to Grade 9 will require the achievement of a Level 3 NVQ as above or an appropriate specialist qualification at or above Level 3 NVQ plus the achievement of or working towards Those who Care for Them or appropriate specialist qualification at or above Level 4 NVQ. Achievement of or working towards “National Programme for Specialist Leader of Behaviour and Attendance” is desirable.

**Further duties and skills expected for staff working at Senior Level (Grade 7):**

* Participate in comprehensive assessment of pupils to determine those in need of particular help
* Plan effective actions for pupils at risk of underachieving
* Determine the need for, prepare and use specialist equipment, plans and resources to support pupils
* Work with other staff planning, evaluating and adjusting learning activities as appropriate
* Deliver, with support, small group interventions eg circle time
* Be pro-active in gaining comprehensive personal knowledge of Local Authority/local/national sources and contact in order to facilitate access to services, activities, courses, organisations and individuals to provide support for pupils and broaden and enrich their learning
* Monitor and evaluate pupils’ responses and progress against action plans to learning activities through observation and planned recording
* Establish constructive relationships with parents/carers, exchanging information, facilitating their support for their child’s attendance, access and learning and supporting home to school and community links
* Further admin support at a higher level e.g. compilation/analysis/reporting on attendance, exclusions etc.
* Take part in multidisciplinary meetings, Common Assessment Framework (CAF) assessments etc
* Undertake relevant and appropriate further training

**Further duties and skills expected for staff working at Principal Level (Grade 9):**

* Take the lead addressing the needs of pupils who are severely disengaged from the learning process
* Plan, deliver and monitor small group interventions to meet pupils’ behavioural, personal or academic needs eg to develop self-esteem, address behaviour issues or develop organisational skills
* Provide objective and accurate feedback and reports to other staff on learning mentor intervention as required
* Liaise with feeder schools and other relevant bodies to gather pupil information
* Provide feedback to pupils in relation to progress, achievement, behaviour, attendance etc
* Take the lead in the development, implementation and review of individual Education/Behaviour/Support Mentoring Plans
* Chair multi-disciplinary meetings or reviews effectively
* Understand the principles and processes of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
* Be involved in completing CAF assessments, taking the lead in this as appropriate
* May act as the CAF ‘Lead professional’ where services are delivered by several agencies
* Will need to be the ‘expert’ on the availability of a range of opportunities, interventions and contacts to benefit the child and family and develop strong personal links in order to easily implement such opportunities
* Deliver appropriate training in intervention strategies to learning mentors and other staff
* Provide guidance to and supervision of other Learning Mentors
* Undertake relevant and appropriate advanced training

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| **Job description prepared by:** | Diane Leverton |
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| **Designation:** | HR Manager - Schools |
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| **Date:** | June 2008 |