



1-2-1 Mentor

Role Description

Soft Touch Arts offers disadvantaged young people the opportunity to build their confidence, skills and self-esteem through participation in a range of creative activities. We have been running highly successful projects for over 29 years in Leicester and Leicestershire, helping young people take first steps back into employment, education and training.

Many of the young people we work with face complex difficulties, and would benefit from additional one to one support. This includes young people leaving care, and those facing mental health difficulties such as depression or anxiety. We are running a pilot mentoring project called Kickstart to offer extra support to young people aged 17-25 who are facing these challenges.

Key Responsibilities

- Be available to meet weekly with a young person for 1-2 hours for a period of 6 months.
- Build a sensitive and understanding relationship with the young person.
- Help the young person to identify goals to move towards education, employment, training or volunteering, and work towards them.
- Signpost the young person to any other services or support they may need such as housing, benefits or childcare.
- Establish and maintain appropriate boundaries
- Attend induction training and monthly review meetings with the Coordinator.
- Work according to the relevant Soft Touch policies and procedures, including Health & Safety, Safeguarding, Equality & Diversity and Confidentiality policies.

What sort of things will you be doing?

Each young person has a unique set of circumstances and background but some of the support you are likely to offer may include:

- Listening to the young person's concerns
- Acting as a sounding board for new ideas or decisions
- Practicing mock job interviews

- Helping to choose an outfit for an interview
- CV writing advice and tips.
- Helping the young person to locate information on the internet
- Visiting a jobcentre or college together
- Demonstrate how to prepare a budget and stick to it
- Taking the young person to visit your office or business
- Sharing skills e.g. graphic design

What skills do you need?

You don't need to have any experience of mentoring, but you should be able to demonstrate the following skills and qualities to be a successful mentor:

- Ability to commit to the project for six months
- Ability to relate to young people
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills; good listener
- To be reliable and keep all planned meetings
- Non-judgemental and empathetic.
- Positive attitude, with lots of patience
- Understanding of the key issues facing the young person
- Prepared to share information
- Understanding of the process of job searching, CV writing and interview preparation
- Willing to undergo a DBS check.

Training and Support

A dedicated Mentoring Coordinator will be available to fully support you in your role, including training workshops and regular review meetings. Soft Touch is committed to ensuring each mentor is fully equipped for their role to ensure maximum benefit for both mentor and mentee.

How to Apply

Complete our KickSTart Mentor application form, which can be found on our website, www.soft-touch.org.uk/mentoring or call 0116 2552592 to request a paper copy of the form. All successful applicants will be expected to attend an interview and training before being appointed. Appointment will also depend on matching a young person to your profile.



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