

Learning mentor

Learning mentors offer support and guidance to children and young people who are struggling with social, emotional or behavioural issues that affect their ability to learn.

As a learning mentor, you'll support, motivate and guide pupils, including gifted and talented learners, to help them overcome barriers that are preventing them from achieving their full potential. You'll work closely with teachers and other staff to identify the needs of learners who require help and plan how to support them.



Skills:

You'll need to have:

- excellent communication and listening skills
- the ability to empathise with and motivate learners
- skills in persuading, negotiation and influencing
- determination to see problems and solutions through to the end
- a non-judgemental approach
- organisation and time management skills
- the ability to relate to young people in order to build trust so that they can achieve their full potential
- the ability to analyse problems and devise solutions

Qualifications:

College - You could do a college course to get some of the skills you'll need as a learning mentor. Courses include: Level 2 Award in Mentoring/Level 2 Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools/T Level in Education and Early Years. Entry requirements: 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course/4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths for a T level.

Apprenticeship - You could do a Learning and Skills Mentor Level 4 Higher Apprenticeship. This takes a minimum of 12 months to complete. Entry requirements: 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship.

Volunteering - You'll find it useful to get some volunteering experience, working with children or young people. You can find opportunities through Do-IT and NCVO.

Direct Application - You could apply directly to become a learning mentor. The qualifications and experience you'll need will vary depending on where you work.

Working hours:

Working hours are usually 35 to 40 hours, Monday to Friday, during term time. You may need to work occasional evenings to support extracurricular activities, attend staff meetings or to visit parents.

Salary:

- Salaries for learning mentors typically start at around £18,000.
- As you gain experience, this can rise to £22,000.
- Experienced learning mentors can earn around £26,000.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/learning-mentor>

