



FROM THE DIANA AWARD

MENTOR APPLICATION PACK_

ABOUT THE MENTORING PROGRAMME_

The Diana Award Mentoring Programme supports young people to develop their careers skills, whilst making positive change in their community. We collaborate with professional volunteer mentors to deliver group mentoring and careers skills development programmes for young people aged 14-18 who are at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training).

We support young people in collaboration with volunteer mentors, sharing professional advice and guidance and providing careers skills training in a group setting. The programme also encourages young people to participate in youth-led social action, with mentors and mentees working together to develop projects tackling issues that directly impact them and their community.

We are currently recruiting volunteer mentors in **London** to participate in our **Spring 2026 Mentoring Programme**. The Autumn 2025 Mentoring Programme is currently underway and closed to new applicants.

MENTORING PROGRAMME SESSION FORMAT_

Where?

- London (see mentor application form for boroughs)
- Delivered primarily in secondary schools, further education settings, and alternative provisions.

When?

- Autumn (October-February) and Spring (March-July).
- The programme consists of twelve group sessions. Sessions last around an hour (excluding travel) and are delivered on the same day and time each week.
- **The Spring 2026 Mentoring Programme runs from March 2026 to July 2026.** The programme is paused during school holidays. Mentor onboarding and training runs from January to February 2026.

Who?

- **Small groups of three to six volunteer mentors, all from different walks of life, are matched with a group of young people at risk of becoming NEET.**
- There are 15-25 young people in the mentoring sessions who are between the ages 14-18 years old.
- Each mentoring session is facilitated by a member of The Diana Award staff.

VOLUNTEER MENTOR ROLE DESCRIPTION_

Your responsibilities as a volunteer mentor:

- Commit to weekly sessions for twelve weeks, demonstrating consistency and punctuality. Mentoring Programme sessions last 60 to 90 minutes (excluding travel time). Follow through is key when working with young people at risk of becoming NEET.
- Collaborate with a Diana Award Facilitator and other volunteer mentors to deliver and support group mentoring sessions within a school setting.
- Review session plans and prepare for weekly sessions. Communicate weekly and in a timely manner with other volunteer mentors and a Diana Award Facilitator.
- Create a safe and positive learning environment and provide young people with encouragement, guidance, and constructive feedback.
- Nurture positive relationships with young people. Listen, understand, and acknowledge their feelings and experiences.
- Support young people to plan a social action project.
- Foster a growth mindset and encourage young people to challenge themselves to work towards their goals.
- Support young people's professional development by connecting them with further opportunities. For example, workplace visits, work experience, resources, relevant networks etc.
- Identify and report any safeguarding and child protection concerns or disclosures to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, as per The Diana Award Safeguarding Policy.



VOLUNTEER MENTOR PERSON SPECIFICATION_



Optional Experience/Knowledge_

- Has prior experience working with young people.
- Has experience in organising grassroots activism.
- Has experience or knowledge in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- Has experience or knowledge in Widening Participation.
- Has experience in project management.

Requirements_

- A minimum of 18-years-old.
- Willing to complete a DBS Check (paid for by The Diana Award).
- Willing to provide contact details for two referees.
- Able to commit to weekly face-to-face sessions.
- Able to attend a three-hour in-person mentor training session.
- Has the right to work and volunteer in the UK.
- Lives or works in or near to London.

Skills_

- Passion for working with young people and an interest in youth-led social action.
- Has developed or willing to develop active listening skills.
- Ability to see solutions and opportunities when working with people or in a group setting.
- Ability to show resilience when faced with challenging situations or behaviours.

Experience/Knowledge_

- Has work experience, this can be professional, from previous volunteering, or social action initiatives.
- Has developed or willing to develop experience of picking, planning, and delivering a social action campaign.

THE BENEFITS_

Participating in our programmes as a volunteer mentor is a lot of fun, incredibly inspiring and fulfilling. You will gain so much in the process, and learn and enhance **transferrable skills** such as:

- Strong communication and presentation skills
- Leadership and teamwork
- Project management
- Building empathy and youth engagement
- Increased self-confidence and self-awareness

You will also get the opportunity to:

- Make your CV stand out
- Connect with our network of Diana Award volunteer mentors
- Understand more about barriers facing young people in your community
- Build on your knowledge of social action and take part in social action projects
- **Make a difference:** Help support young people's confidence, work readiness and active citizenship



VOLUNTEER MENTOR TIMELINE_

MENTOR APPLICATION

Open from 3rd November 2025 to 7th January 2026, 23:59 GMT.

PRE-PROGRAMME ONBOARDING

- DBS checks
- Reference checks
- Right to work checks
- Pre-programme survey
- Mentor Training

END-PROGRAMME

- Mentor appreciation and thank yous
- Programme reflections and showcase
 - End-programme survey
- Final check-in with the Programme Manager



APPLICATION RESULT

You will hear about the result of your application to volunteer as a mentor in mid-January 2026.

PROGRAMME

- Online Meet and Greet with Diana Award Facilitator and your co-volunteer mentors
- Twelve weekly mentoring sessions (Mentoring Programme)
- Mid-programme check-in with the Programme Manager



HOW TO APPLY_

Please use the following link to access the online application form, which you can use to apply to volunteer as a mentor:

<https://the-diana-award.typeform.com/applytomentor26>

For the result of your application in mid-January 2026, please make sure to check your spam folder, as our emails from mentor@diana-award.org.uk sometimes end up in there.



OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING_

As a youth organisation, The Diana Award believes that a child, young person or adult should never experience neglect or abuse of any kind.

We are committed to safeguarding and protecting from harm all people who benefit from our work, including young people, staff, volunteers and beneficiaries.

We do this through promoting a culture of safety for all, with robust policies, procedures and training in place.



QUESTIONS AND NEXT STEPS_

For more details about the application process please contact: mentor@diana-award.org.uk

If you are selected to volunteer as a mentor for The Diana Award, the Mentoring Team will guide you through the process, including providing a detailed Volunteer Mentor Handbook and an in-depth Mentor Training session.

For more insight into The Diana Award, please follow us here:

W. diana-award.org.uk

T. @DianaAward

F. /thedianaaward

We can't wait to welcome you as a volunteer mentor!

