



the kids network

Connecting for Change

Volunteering Pack

Welcome to The Kids Network!

The Kids Network supports children aged 8-11 at a crucial time in their lives: in the lead up to the transition from primary into secondary school. We do this by matching them with a volunteer mentor, a local hero from their London community who supports them in 1:1 weekly session for the duration of a year.



Our Programme

- 1 year of weekly sessions, 1-3 hours long
- One-to-one mentoring in the community
- Monthly budget for sessions
- Child-led programme and activities
- Safeguarding support throughout the year
- Group mentoring sessions

As a mentor...

You will be trained to deliver child-led sessions, and whether you're playing games, going to the cinema or discussing goals, you'll be making a difference to a child's life whilst gaining new skills and enhancing your employability prospects.

What we offer mentors

- Comprehensive onboarding training and continual opportunities for further development and training
- A Badge of Excellence Certificate in Child-led Mentoring upon completion of the programme
- Access to our mentoring community platform and online resources
- A new network of friends in fellow mentors across London
- Year-round support from a dedicated Programme Manager



“ It's exposing me to things I wouldn't really do, even with my mentee like she wants to go trampolining or flower shopping. I'm learning about myself, she's learning about herself. ”

Our Impact

Our programme has proven significant impact on increasing the social and emotional capabilities and wellbeing of children. We achieve this by building children's confidence, resilience and curiosity for ambitious futures through positive experiences.

From our 2023 Impact Report...

71% Of children are from the global majority

96% Of children reported they had a trusting relationship with their mentor

100% Of children reported an increase in their wellbeing over their mentoring journey

Scan the QR code to
view our 2023 Impact
Report

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We have seen the difference it's made in the children's confidence levels, their ability to communicate and manage feelings.

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Benefits for Mentors

Our programme not only benefits the children we work with but also has a huge positive impact on our mentors through improving their wellbeing, skills, and knowledge.

From our 2023 Impact Report...

76%

Of mentors reported that mentoring has had a positive impact on their wellbeing.

74%

Of mentors had an increased belief they could make a positive change in their community

57%

Of mentors reported that mentoring with TKN gave them skills to help them progress in their career



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My mentor has made me feel more brave and confident and proud to answer questions in school

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The Mentor Journey

Onboarding

Once you fill out a short application form, a member of the TKN team will be in touch within 72 hours to invite you to interview. If successful at interview, we will require 2 references, in addition to a DBS check. These checks will be paid for by TKN.

Training

After a successful interview, you will be invited to an in person induction day, in addition to completing an online training module. These will include sessions to provide our mentors with all the skills and knowledge they need to be a brilliant mentor to their mentee.

Months 1-3 of mentoring

Building Connections

We will then match you to a child who needs a little extra support. The first 3 months of your mentoring journey will be about building connections with your mentee. Spending 1 hour together each week, getting to know each other in their local area.

Months 3-9 of mentoring

Goal Setting

After 2 months, sessions can be extended to 2-3 hours each week. You can start venturing further afield and begin goal setting. You will help your mentee identify their goals for their time with TKN and work with them to achieve them over your time together.

Months 9-12 of mentoring

Positive endings

The final 3 months of your mentor journey will focus on positive endings, celebrating the time you have spent together, all you have achieved and looking forward to the positive future your mentee will have after your TKN journey comes to an end at the one year mark.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a cost?

No! TKN will pay for DBS and onboarding costs. Each mentor/mentee pair have £35 to spend each month. Mentors can also claim travel expenses to help them get to sessions and explore the city with their mentee.

How will I be matched with my mentee?

Once our mentors have completed onboarding and training we begin the process of matching them with a child. This will be based not only on proximity but also on similar interest and personalities which we feel will make a good fit.

When do I need to be available to mentor?

Sessions last between 1-3 hours, once a week. This will be outside of school hours, we will work with you to fit your sessions into your schedule. The programme lasts a full 12 months.

Can I go on holiday?

Yes, of course. Although our stance is that we require sessions with your mentee take place weekly, we recognise instances such as holidays may require you to have a two-week gap in sessions with your mentee. We ask that you work with your programme manager to maintain the quality of the programme experience for your mentee.

What next!

Do you think you could be a role model and connect with a mentee to make positive change? Now is the time to dream big, to step up and to take action to support our little Londoners!

Scan the QR code to visit our website to find out more information and apply to become a mentor today!



If you have any questions or would like to speak more about the opportunity, please email us via info@thekidsnetwork.org.uk

“
I think the motto of TKN should be “positive vibes only” both the staff and the mentors are extremely cheerful, supportive and understanding. It’s truly like being part of a community.
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