

Peer Mentoring The Coventry Way

An Introduction to How a Co-Curricular Peer Mentoring Programme embedded with Peer Assisted Learning can enhance a student's university experience



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Peer Mentoring – The Coventry Way

What is Peer Assisted Learning and Peer Mentoring?

Peer Assisted Learning

- An **educational approach** in which students provide support for other students. It is **participatory** and involves **collaborative working** on a **one-to-one** or **small group** basis.
- A model of peer-to-peer mentoring connected to the development of **academic writing**
- A model designed to support **transition, social integration and retention** for first year students

Peer to Peer Mentoring

- Delivered through a platform called Vygo, it allows students to connect with other students and mentors from outside of their course areas and other campuses
- An Extra-Curricular focus for students to develop skills and resilience throughout their university journey
- Mentors receive full training prior to mentor approval and can embark on a mentor development programme which offers monthly skills development of self-reflection of their own practises and development to become the most effective mentor possible.

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A Sense of Community and Belonging

- Peer Mentoring helps students settle into university life and study quickly and effectively
- Facilitated learning through guidance from higher year students who can appreciate issues faced by new students
- A contribution to the development of communication, teamwork, collaborative and problem solving skills
- It offers the benefits of making new friends in a smaller group environment and across year groups
- Importantly it is informal, friendly and hopefully fun as well

“ It has been an exciting opportunity which has allowed me to connect with other students in my academic field”

“Being as a mentor and having sessions has made a lot of positive impact on me.”

“More Insight of how to navigate through university life”

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Embedding Peer Mentoring and PAL an Enhance Your Course



Retention:- *Recommending students to engage with the peer mentoring scheme who are identified as students who are at high risk of withdrawing will be able to make stronger links to the university through their peers by sharing similar situations or fears*



Engagement -*An overall better experience as the student engages with all university services. Engagement can be tracked through the Vygo platform. Higher engagement with their course team and first time submissions*



Satisfaction - *Satisfaction ratings following interaction with their peer-to-peer mentor*



Attainment - *First time submission rate:- Students who engage with their mentor to discuss and have support regarding submissions – could see a higher ‘submit first time’ rate. The percentage of students exceeding their own expectations, academic goals and within their own personal/extra curricular development in their academic journey*