

THE DIANA AWARD MENTORING PROGRAMME YOUNG PERSON ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA_



Our Mentoring intervention aims to improve workplace readiness, instil active citizenship, and increase social mobility for young people at risk of becoming NEET aged 14-18. At the start of 2024, the Office for National Statistics estimated there are currently 851,000 NEET young people in the UK (12% of all 16–24-year-olds).

This Eligibility Criteria is a vital tool in ensuring that the young people with greatest need are receiving our support. It has been formulated using recent research from across the youth work sector, with a homed in focus on our regions and the key characteristics of NEET young people within those areas.

Eligible young people are:

- Young people with a 10% or more absence rate.
- Young people with lower than expected or declining educational attainment – examples would be an ‘average’ student whose grades have been decreasing, or a student not predicted to achieve 5 GCSEs.
- Young people from low-income households, or who have experienced food and/or digital poverty.
- Young people eligible for PP (Pupil Premium) or FSM (Free School Meals)
- Disabled young people.
- Young people who are – or were previously – looked after or have ever been on the children in need census.
- Young carers.
- Young people receiving SEN/SEND or SEMH support - where this is the case, our staff will require prior knowledge of the support required for each young person, to make suitable programme content adaptations.
- Young people who have spent time in Pupil Referral Units or have previously been suspended or excluded – where this is the case, our staff will require prior knowledge and an explanation of the specific behavioural support required.
- Young people with low self-esteem or a lack of confidence.