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Exemplar letter to parents re mentoring

Date

LANGUAGE FUTURES

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Languages Department at ... is offering students the opportunity to be part of an innovative project in language learning to take place during an after school club. As part of the Language Futures project students are invited to choose a language which is of interest and relevance to them, a language which they might need now or to meet their future aspirations. The role of the teacher will be to teach students how to learn a language, skills which they will then apply to their chosen language with the support of language mentors. It is an approach which seeks to make language learning highly relevant and personalised to each student and provides them with the life-long learning skill of being able to learn any language.

We are now seeking student mentors to support the iproject and your child has expressed interest in being involved. Mentors are a very important part of the Language Futures approach and mentoring is a highly rewarding experience for the mentors who experience at first hand the satisfaction of seeing other students develop their skills and confidence as a direct result of their support. Mentoring can be used to share language skills and a passion for language learning. It can also be used to experience language teaching and build communication skills or as a volunteering opportunity to support a particular aim or scheme (e.g. Language Leaders, Duke of Edinburgh, #iwill campaign or a UCAS personal statement).

As a mentor, your child must commit to one session per week during which time they will develop their ability to communicate effectively with a small group of learners and support language learning activities. This may involve a small amount of planning to prepare for this session which would be supported and guided by the teacher who will remain responsible for the group of learners at all times.

As participation requires a commitment (on the part of both mentee and mentor), students need to think carefully before participating. We want to ensure that they have thought through why they want to take part and are suitable candidates and therefore ask that interested students complete the attached application form by Please confirm that you support your son/daughter's application by signing the bottom of the application form. Essential requirements for taking part include:

- He/she is passionate about languages and wants to pass this on to others
- He/she wants to share his/her language skills with other students
- He/she is happy to guide learners in language learning tasks and activities which may involve a small amount of planning outside the session

Yours sincerely,

...

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Language Futures Application Form

Application Form for Language Futures 2016-2017

Name:

Tutor Group:

Date:

I would like to be part of Language Futures because:

The language I would like to support is:

My motivation for supporting this language is:

My parents are supportive of this choice and have signed below:

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Date: _____

Additional parental comment (optional)

This form must be returned to ... by ...