



Language**Futures**

BROADENING LANGUAGE PROVISION TO CREATE INDEPENDENT AND ENGAGED LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Presentation to Student Mentors

Language Futures was originally developed by Linton Village College as part of a Paul Hamlyn Foundation initiative. This guidance was produced as part of funding provided by The Mercers' Company. When using and/or adapting resources, we would ask you to acknowledge the Language Futures initiative.

About Language Futures



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The Language Futures approach is not designed to ‘teach’ a language, but to equip students to be independent language learners, supported by school, home and the wider community. There are 5 key features:

- **Student choice and motivation** - students choose a language that they wish to learn and there may be several languages being studied in any one classroom. Students are also encouraged to work together to share learning.
- **Teacher as facilitator** - the teacher sets up the learning and manages the classroom, but doesn’t necessarily speak all of the languages being studied.
- **School as base camp** –students are encouraged to learn in a variety of ways and places e.g. at home.
- **Project-based learning** – students design, plan and carry out projects with a concrete outcome.
- **Building a learning community** – students are supported in their learning by mentors who provide good models of the language and advise on language and learning tasks.

Why get involved?

Mentoring is highly rewarding ...



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- It is a practical way to share your language skills and develop your communication skills.
- You gain satisfaction from seeing other students develop their skills and confidence as a direct result of your support.
- You gain a different perspective on language learning and teaching.
- It can be used 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).

Role of the mentor



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- Attend a lunchtime/after school session once a week.
- Work alongside students, helping with language investigation, tasks, projects and pronunciation etc.
- Small amount of planning required prior to the session which will be guided by the teacher.
- At the start of each session, the teacher will advise how best to support students. It is likely that there will be at least two students studying each language so you may be asked to support a pair or small group of students.

To be a mentor:



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- You will be interested in languages and want to share this interest and your own language skills with other students.
- You will have good communication skills.
- You will be positive and encouraging when supporting other students.
- You will be reliable and commit to attending the LF session each week.
- You will be guided by the LF teacher and commit to some planning before the session.

Next steps



If you would like further information on the Language Futures approach, explore the [website](#).

Pick up a letter and application form.