

YPI empowers young people to make a difference in their local community while developing vital skills such as communication, teamwork and confidence. To enhance young people's learning experience, schools may look to incorporate mentoring into the delivery of YPI.

Mentoring can play an influential role in supporting young people to further develop key skills while providing a mutually beneficial learning and developmental experience for the mentor. As a mentor, you can support young people in a meaningful way while picking up new skills. And, as a mentee, a mentor will help them build confidence and make them feel more informed and empowered.

"I am now more aware of how YPI contributes to work readiness for young people and how this can be part of our career strategy going forward. I am also more aware of social issues in our communities and how my organisation can play a role in mentoring young people. It has also given me a chance to practice mentoring skills for a different age profile than I have had previous experience of." – YPI Mentor

Across Scotland, we have seen great examples of mentoring in various forms which helps to guide, motivate and support young people. Mentoring can be provided by partners and peer/YPI alumni.

Partners

YPI provides a methodology that consolidates partnership working, providing experiential opportunities for all learners. Schools can work with like-minded partners to create a mentoring programme for their young people. Partners can provide valuable insight into how young people would use the skills they are developing in the world of work while sharing expertise, providing feedback and building connections with future talent. Partner mentoring can increase confidence and improve employability prospects through guidance and transforming young people's aspirations.

The principles of YPI reflect the DYW agenda with a clear focus on developing skills for learning, life and work. There is an opportunity to engage with new or existing partnerships through DYW to support mentoring throughout YPI.

"It has really made me think about how to tailor my communication to my audience - the advice I've given to different groups has been delivered in a way I wouldn't normally deliver it, and I think that's been good for me to expand my skills and style of delivery for something like this." – YPI Mentor

Peer or YPI Alumni Mentoring

There are a number of schools that work with YPI alumni to support the programme delivery. YPI alumni can use their experience to help and encourage others, while enhancing their own leadership skills. YPI alumni can share best practice and answer any questions the young people may have about the programme.

"It's been really helpful, especially in preparing pupils for their interviews with charities." - YPI Delivery Teacher

For an overview of key programme milestones to prepare for mentoring young people please [click here](#).