



West Midlands

# Aimhigher Mentoring

## Information for Parents and Carers

*"It's been great having someone you can talk to about educational matters. My mentor has been great!... I've definitely gained from this scheme."*

### Introduction

This leaflet is for the parents and carers of young people who have been chosen to take part in Aimhigher Mentoring. As well as telling you about Aimhigher Mentoring it asks for some information about you and your child, to help us improve our activities and prove that what we do helps young people make the most of their educational opportunities. We hope you find it helpful, but if you have more questions please get in touch...our contact details are at the end of this leaflet.

### What is Aimhigher?

Aimhigher is a partnership of universities, schools and colleges. We aim to raise the aspirations and achievements of young people so that they can reach their full potential. Aimhigher delivers a range of activities for around 1,000 young people a year. We give young people a chance to explore different careers, find out more about qualifications and make the right decisions about their future. Aimhigher activities take place in schools, colleges, local universities or in professional workplaces like hospitals.

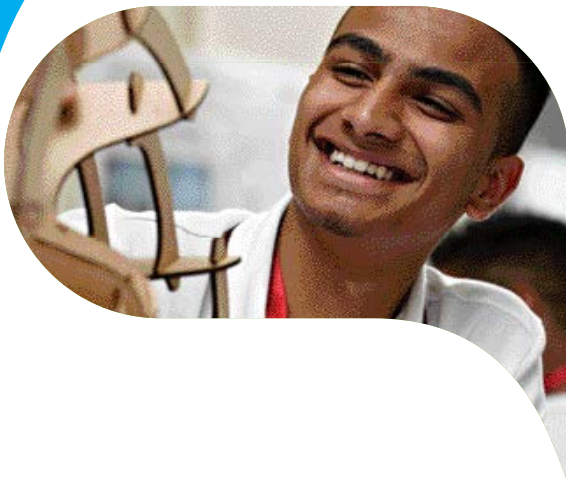
### What is Aimhigher Mentoring?

The Aimhigher Mentoring Scheme involves undergraduate students (mentors) from local universities and young people in schools and colleges. The mentors support a group of five students on a weekly basis, usually for 12 to 15 weeks. Mentoring takes place during the school or college day, either one-to-one or in a small group. We also have a safe e-mentoring system that mentors and students can use at other times.

Aimhigher mentors help young people:

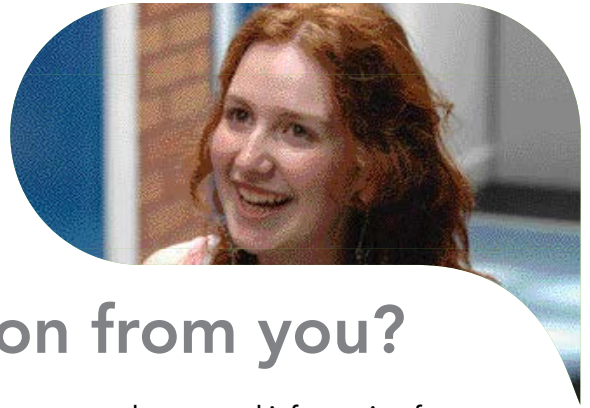
- raise their aspiration to succeed in their education
- improve their study skills, motivation, confidence, and time management
- explore different careers
- increase their awareness of higher education and decide if it is the right option for them.

Aimhigher Mentors are positive role models and our evidence shows that students benefit greatly from their support.



# Safeguarding – taking care of young people

The safety and wellbeing of students is the highest priority for Aimhigher. All of our mentors undergo an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau / DBS check and are given full training and guidance in child protection. They work to a strict code of conduct which identifies their responsibilities for protecting young people.



## Why do we need information from you?



To see how Aimhigher helps young people we need information from them and their parents or carers. We also need your consent to find out if your child goes on to gain their GCSEs, A levels or other qualifications and then apply for university. This is an important part of a research study we are undertaking, and involves asking learners that attend Aimhigher activities to complete questionnaires.

The form on this leaflet asks for your permission to use and match questionnaire responses with information on the Aimhigher Mentoring your child will receive, their exam results, school census data and information on what they go on to do after school.

## How will we look after this information? – Data Protection

All information you give us will be held confidentially and each learner's name and school name will be held separately from the rest of the information. None of the information you give us will be shared unless you give us your permission. Any information we publish about Aimhigher will not identify you or your child unless you have given us your permission. Under the Data Protection Act 1998, you have the right to a copy of the data held about you by us, for a small fee. If you have any concerns about how your data will be used or would like a copy of your data please contact Aimhigher on 0121 414 2510.



**Thank you for giving us this information.  
For more information about Aimhigher please visit our website  
[www.aimhigherwm.ac.uk](http://www.aimhigherwm.ac.uk)**

**Contact us by email: [aimhigher@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:aimhigher@contacts.bham.ac.uk)**

**Or telephone us on 0121 415 8176**

# Information and Consent Form



## Data Protection

To take part in Aimhigher Mentoring the data provided on this form (or subsequent correspondence) will need to be shared with local universities and the school or college your child attends.

With your permission the data on this form will also be shared with a number of organisations to help us track your son/daughter's progress through their education. These organisations will match your child's data with their records, and return it to us so that we can see how your child is getting on. The organisations we would like to share data with are: your child's school or college, your local authority, the National Pupil

Database, UCAS and the Higher Education Statistics Agency, who deal with admissions to higher education, and HEAT, which collects data on attainment and admission to higher education. This research will help us continue to support more young people in the future.

Any information we publish about Aimhigher will not identify you or your child without your permission. Under the Data Protection Act 1998, you have the right to a copy of the data held about you by us, for a small fee. If you have any concerns about how your data will be used or would like a copy of your data please contact Aimhigher on 0121 414 2510.

## SECTION 1 – Information to be completed by the YOUNG PERSON

Please read the information on the attached leaflet before completing this form.  
Please complete the form in **BLOCK** capitals and return it to your teacher or tutor.

First name:

Surname:

Home Address:

Home Postcode:

Home telephone number:

Your mobile number:

Gender:

Male

Female

Date of Birth:

/

DD/MM/YYYY

Which Ethnic Group do you belong to?

White

Other Black background

Mixed - White & Black African

Black or Black British – Caribbean

Asian or Asian British – Indian

Other Mixed Background

Chinese

Mixed - White & Asian

Other ethnic background

Other Asian background

Black or Black British – African

Not known

Mixed - White & Black Caribbean

Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi

Prefer not to say

Irish Traveller

Asian or Asian British – Pakistani

Name of school, college or academy:

Your Year Group:

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

College/training year 1

College/training year 2

Please circle

## SECTION 2 - To be completed by PARENTS/CARERS

1 Do you or your partner have any higher education qualifications? These could have been taken at a university or a college, and include Honours Degrees, Degrees, Foundation Degrees, Higher National Diplomas (HNDs), Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Diploma of Higher Education.

Mother/carer  Yes  No

Father/carer  Yes  No

2 Please let us know your employment status, job title and work e.g. Shop Assistant, Receptionist, Taxi Driver etc. Please write 'N/A' (not applicable) if you are unemployed or not a wage earner.

Mother occupation

Father occupation

3 Does your child have a disability and/or a learning difficulty?  Yes  No

4 Is your child subject to a local authority care order  Yes  No

5 Is your child eligible for free school meals or the 16-19 Bursary?  Yes  No  Don't Know

### Declaration:

I the parent / carer have read this form. I consent for Aimhigher to use the information I have provided to track my child's progress using data from my child's school, local authority, the National Pupil Database, UCAS, the Higher Education Statistics Agency and HEAT, as outlined earlier in this form.

Signature of parent/carer: ..... Print name: .....

Date signed: .....

**Only complete the next section if you DO NOT WANT your and your child's data to be used for Aimhigher research purposes. Ticking "No" will not stop your child taking part in Aimhigher activities.**

I the parent/carer do not consent for data on this form to be matched with Aimhigher questionnaire or other data.

**Please return this form to your child's teacher or tutor.**

### School / College Information

Thank you for your support in gathering this information and consent, which will help us evaluate the impact of Aimhigher Mentoring on your students. If you have any queries regarding our research work please contact us by email: [aimhigher@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:aimhigher@contacts.bham.ac.uk) or telephone us on 0121 415 8176.

Please return this form to:  
Aimhigher  
FREEPOST (BM2843)  
University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston  
BIRMINGHAM  
B15 1BR