

# U<sup>Urban</sup> S<sup>Synergy</sup>™

*The Mentoring Resource Pool*



## What is Urban Synergy?

Urban Synergy The Mentoring Resource Pool is a London based community interest voluntary group that was created in April 2007 to bring together successful professionals who volunteer their personal time to mentor young people.

### Our Mission

We are committed to helping young people reach their full potential by offering mentees support, advice, encouragement and motivation to achieve and be the best that they can be.

Our ethos is to empower young people to take positive steps that help them find direction in their lives so that they can become mature, confident, independent, life-equipped and ultimately successful individuals who will be positive contributors to their community and wider society.

### Our Vision

Our immediate vision is to grow and expand our pool of mentors to more than 100 persons actively mentoring in London to meet demand from young persons who have been referred to our service. Our longer term plan is to launch regional Urban Synergy networks in other cities across the UK including Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester and Bradford to meet the needs of young people.

### Our Work

Urban Synergy provides services including one-to-one mentoring and support, work experience, workshops and experience days and apprenticeships for young people, in an effort to equip them with valuable life skills and experiences so that they can ultimately succeed.

### Our Values

We are:

#### inclusive

to young people and their guardians – we value people as individuals regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion and disability we engage other organisations with similar aims by collaborating and working together

#### responsive

to the needs and views of the people we work with

#### effective

in empowering young people to make positive changes in their lives so that they can find success as individuals through the quality and reach of our work

#### supportive

of the people who seek our help of each other and share best practice to achieve the highest standards as an organisation

## Why Urban Synergy?

Urban Synergy was born from widespread concern about a visible number of young people whose educational attainment and self-esteem is low. Our central belief is that every young person deserves every chance to attain success and part of this process begins with the provision of positive role models.

Our mentor resource pool consists of successful professionals working together to mentor, support and inspire young people to be the best that they can be.

We assist self-volunteered young persons who need additional support and attention by inspiring them to move forward.

Our mentors extend pupil knowledge and understanding of possible career paths by providing the young person with a positive role / goal model who works within an industry of their choice. The young person is given access to information and other role / goal models via the Urban Synergy network.

Urban Synergy plants a positive seed of hope, ambition and achievement in young people.

## Mentors

### *Where do Urban Synergy mentors come from?*

The Mentoring Resource Pool draws its mentors from a wide variety of professions, industries and prestigious companies. Our current roster of mentors includes a dentist, legal professionals including pilot, solicitors and a barrister, several entrepreneurs, media professionals, plumbers and electricians, IT professionals including software developers, pharmaceutical sales and engineers, and those working in health and social services – Reuters, British Broadcasting Corporation, UCB Pharmaceuticals, JP Morgan, Garden Court Chambers and Dentist@W2.

### *What shared values link Urban Synergy mentors?*

All of our mentors share a common goal and are motivated by the same thing – they all “want to understand the issues young people face today and empathetically help them to overcome perceived barriers so they can fully achieve their dreams”.

### *Which agencies does Urban Synergy work alongside?*

Urban Synergy works with designated schools and education providers who feel they can benefit from our mentors working with young people. Urban Synergy operates a strict referral system – mentees are paired with mentors as a result of formal referral through an agency.



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## **Mentor allocation process:**

**Step 1:** **Mentee Referral Form submitted from parent/carer**

**Step 2:** **Assessment**

Urban Synergy Mentoring support staff assess referral data and check mentor availability  
Mentor availability feedback is given to referrer

An introductory meeting invite is sent to parent/carers and prospective Mentee to meet Urban Synergy Mentoring Support staff to discuss mentor programme, mentee wishes and potential personal development goals

Mentee's family or guardians and the mentee consider their application

**Step 3:** **Introduction to Mentor**

Mentee is introduced to mentor

Discuss Mentee/mentor meeting locations and dates discussed

All parties agree for mentor programme to start

**Step 4:** **Mentoring commences**

Rapport building, goal setting and introduction to Urban Synergy mentor network



### **Get Involved**

How can I (prospective mentor or work experience provider) get involved?

If you would like to know more about what it takes to get involved as a mentor for Urban Synergy, please email an application request to:

[info@urbansynergyuk.com](mailto:info@urbansynergyuk.com)

### **CONTACT US**

For more information please refer to:

[www.urbansynergyuk.com](http://www.urbansynergyuk.com)

Or email

[info@urbansynergyuk.com](mailto:info@urbansynergyuk.com)

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