


mosaic

the power of positive thinking



“Quite simply, it is the best mentoring programme we have every been involved in.”

Mosaic inspires young people from deprived communities to realise their talents and potential.

Founded by HRH The Prince of Wales in 2007, Mosaic's mission is to create opportunities for young people of all backgrounds growing up in our most deprived communities, championed by Muslims and harnessing the power of positive thinking. In doing so, we also aim to increase opportunities for understanding between people of different backgrounds.

Mosaic links young people with inspirational role models to boost their confidence, self-efficacy and long-term employability. We provide mentoring programmes tailored to the needs of particular groups:

- **Primary School students** – our mentors inspire young girls and their mothers to pursue their education and consider the careers available to them.
- **Secondary School students** – mentoring support is supplemented with World of Work visits and exciting presentations. Students also have access to our Enterprise Challenge competition, and an intensive programme for mentees demonstrating leadership potential.
- **Young Ex-offenders** – one to one mentoring support is provided for those making the difficult transition from prison back to their communities, coupled with access to employability programmes.

Mosaic is part of The Prince's Charities. Key to the success of our work is our fantastic network of volunteers and supporters, as well as our partnerships with other organisations. We operate in London, the North West, the South East, the West Midlands and Yorkshire and we have important international links.

Young people will succeed if they are supported by those who are already successful.



THE NEED FOR MOSAIC'S WORK

Why mentoring?

Positive aspirations are crucial for young people's future success; what people aspire to do as a child is very strongly linked to what they end up doing later in life. Low aspirations lead to poor academic attainment and professional achievement. They can also feed into a general sense of isolation and exclusion from mainstream society, and so social responsibility and individual endeavour are undermined. However, without the right support, even those with high aspirations and the greatest talents may miss out.

For many young people, an "aspirations-attainment gap" is caused by a lack of information about how to realise their ambitions, by too few role models and a lack of contacts in professional roles. Powerful evidence also shows that "soft-skills" – social graces, communication skills, personal habits, friendliness and a positive attitude – are increasingly important for success at school and in the job market. Encouraging young people to realise that they are stakeholders in society and providing them with the skills and knowledge by which to compete for jobs is more crucial than ever. Mentoring support from those who are already successful inspires and motivates young people and helps them to plan the steps necessary to succeed themselves.

Why Muslims?

Mosaic supporters are not all Muslim and our programmes are open to students of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. However, we do focus our work in areas with significant Muslim communities. This is because, young Muslims in the UK are currently at the bottom of most indices of deprivation and disadvantage. For many young Muslims, academic performance is particularly low and prospects in the labour market are very weak. Also, young Muslims make up a disproportionately large number of the UK prison population. Explanations for this are usually given in terms of poverty, social deprivation and language difficulties, but there are certain Muslim-specific obstacles. These include a lack of awareness of Muslim role models in schools and, more generally, the confidence and identity issues of those struggling with growing up in the face of the negative views of Muslims and Islam held by many in wider society.

Mosaic does not have a religious or political agenda – we are simply about helping young people and we try to operate where our services are most needed. This mission has resonated widely, as evidenced by the great support we have received. Numerous successful Muslims, and many others who have done well and want to give back, find in Mosaic a way to do so.

MOSAIC'S PROGRAMMES

Primary School Mentoring Programme (for 8-11 year olds)

The aim is to raise the aspirations of young girls and to help empower their mothers to be better able to support their daughters fulfil their potential. The programme comprises ten taught sessions with Mosaic's mentors. The girls cover themes such as confidence, communication, and role models whilst their mothers look at themes such as citizenship and understanding the British education system. Included in the programme is a visit to a prominent university to provide exposure to further education; hosted by student ambassadors, the mothers and daughters participate in workshops, a tour of the campus and a presentation on university life.

Secondary School Mentoring Programme (for 11-18 year-olds)

This offers a powerful package of opportunities to raise the aspirations of young people and close the gap between those aspirations and their attainment. Interacting with positive role models like our Mosaic mentors improves students' confidence, self-efficacy and employability. As well as group mentoring, the package of support includes workplace visits, inspirational speeches and motivational competitions.

The Apax-Mosaic Enterprise Challenge is a national schools competition that aims to encourage entrepreneurship amongst young people. Student teams are supported by specialist business mentors to compete through an online business game. Students are put in a realistic business scenario where they work as a team learning to develop, market and pitch a new product.

Mosaic Stars is our cross-school leadership development programme for students who have demonstrated exceptional potential and have made the most of their Mosaic mentoring experience.

Ex-offender Mentoring Programme (for 18-35 year olds)

This provides focused support to young prisoners who are approaching the end of their custodial sentence and need help with the challenging transition from custody to community. As well as encouraging the development of a constructive attitude, one-to-one mentoring sessions provide wide-ranging practical assistance, including helping the ex-offender to secure housing and employment after their release. With these vital support structures in place, the likelihood of re-offending in the future is significantly reduced. The programme does not work with those convicted of a serious sexual assault or terrorist-related activity or those liable to deportation.

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at school?

rry on studying?

about university?

when you have finished at

iversity help you to do what

A young woman with dark hair, wearing a green jacket and a name tag, is smiling and looking down at a child whose back is to the camera. The child has long, dark hair. The woman is wearing a watch on her left wrist. In the background, a presentation screen displays text about school and university.

“ I believe that the work Mosaic is doing with the youth of today will help shape and build the future of our country, for the benefit of all. ”

**Tom Whelan, Partner, Private Equity,
Hogan Lovells LLP**

GET INVOLVED

Mosaic's activities are made possible because of the generosity and support of the hundreds of voluntary mentors, inspirational speakers, donors and businesses who believe in our work.

If you share our vision and also want to have a positive impact on the lives of young people, then there are many ways to get involved:

Become a mentor

Mentoring can be very rewarding and develops your personal and professional skills. By giving just a few hours of your time a month, you can make a real difference.

- Our mentor training programmes are free. School mentor training usually lasts 2-3 hours in a weekday evening. Ex-offender mentor training takes two days and is usually held over a weekend and additional training is also sometimes required with the establishment at which you will be based. All mentors will also be required to complete a Criminal Records Bureau check.
- We will provide you with full training, access to other mentors and support from our regional teams and a resource pack of materials to support your mentoring sessions.
- Most of the schools in which we operate also have Lead Mentors in place, more experienced mentors who liaise with the school and support the mentor team.

Secondary School mentoring opportunities:

- Mentor a small group of students aged 11-18 years old to raise their aspirations and provide them with the life skills to achieve.
Approximate commitment: 16 hours per academic year (2-3 sessions per term)
- Apax-Mosaic Enterprise Challenge business mentoring
Could you bring key business concepts like cash flow and market share to life and support school teams to understand and excel in a business game?
Approximate commitment: up to 3 hours across November-February.

“ I learned to try my best at everything, be determined to succeed and enjoy it! ”

Secondary school mentee



- Presentations
Inspire and motivate large groups of mixed ability students with an engaging speech.
Approximate commitment: 3 hours per academic year

Primary School mentoring opportunities:

- Mentor primary school girls aged 8-11 years old and their mothers to increase their confidence raise their aspirations and encourage them to engage in long-term education.
Approximate commitment: 2.5 hours per week for ten consecutive weeks

Ex-offender mentoring opportunities:

- Can you offer a young offender (aged 18-35) a one-to-one mentoring relationship for 12 months?
Approximate commitment: 1-2 hours per month for 12 months

Provide work opportunities

Mosaic is always looking for employment, internships and other work experience placements for the young people it supports. Alternatively, your company or organisation could host one of our World of Work events, enabling groups of secondary school mentees to meet senior colleagues, tour the premises and gain an understanding of your industry through interactive activities.

Provide in-kind support

Such as access to meeting venues, secondees, in-house design and printing services and consultancy support which can help us to maximise our impact and keep our costs down.

Support a Mosaic event

We hold a variety of fun events and prestigious award ceremonies to celebrate the achievements of the young people we support and the work of our mentors. Would you like to sponsor or host one of these events?

Make a financial contribution

As a charitable organisation, we depend entirely on the generosity of others to deliver our work. As part of The Prince's Charities, you can be assured of the best use of your contribution.

Supporters

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ERNST & YOUNG
Quality In Everything We Do



Unlocking the talent and realising the full potential of every young person, whatever their background or circumstances, is a cause close to my heart. It gives me great joy to see the sense of self-worth and belonging Mosaic provides by extending that much-needed helping hand to those of our diverse communities who need it most.

HRH The Prince of Wales, Founder of Mosaic

Where to find us

For further information about our work or how to get involved, contact us today:

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