

## The language support tutor can help you to:

- work out how to tackle assignments
- develop confidence through study skills
- prepare for presentations or exams

**I'm interested but how can I find out more about the project?** Information events are held at different points in the year to provide guidance and information about different routes in to social work, social care and early years education and employment e.g. the different courses provided by colleges or universities. Our mentors are also available at these events to talk to you and help you explore your options and needs further.

If you are interested in finding out more about this project and how we can help you please contact:

### Nasra Bibi

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## Facilitating Access

**Mentoring and support programmes for Black and Minority Ethnic people who are interested in accessing education and employment opportunities in the social work, social care or early years sector.**

## Introduction

The Multi-Cultural Family Base (MCFB) has developed a widening access project in partnership with Universities and Further Education Colleges. The project aims to contribute to the development of a more diverse and qualified Social Service work force.

The widening access project offers integrated mentoring programmes for Black and Minority Ethnic people who are interested taking up education, training or employment opportunities in social work, social care and the early years sector.

## What is a mentoring?

Mentoring is a one-to-one professional support relationship with a mentee. Mentors provide support, encouragement and guidance in order to raise aspirations of individuals to succeed and mentees are those who are in receipt of this support.

“Mentoring is a way of helping another person to become what the person aspires to be” (*Montreal CEGEP 1988, Leeds Metropolitan University*)

## Who is a mentor?

Our mentors come from a range of backgrounds and have undertaken study which qualifies them to work in the social work, social care or early year's sector.

## What can I expect from my mentor?

Your mentor will work alongside you to enable you to get used to studying and help you to build confidence.

### You can expect:

- To be treated with respect and dignity and in a way that empowers you in your learning.
- Support to develop a positive identity as a Black and Minority Ethnic student or trainee.
- Guidance about appropriate ways of making sure the needs of Black and Minority Ethnic students are recognised by colleges, universities and placement providers.

## What is the difference between a mentor and a University or College tutor?

The tutor is there to provide you with teaching and information about your course work. The mentor can help you to explore additional issues that may come up whilst you are studying, mentors can also help you to identify additional learning needs that you may need help to access.

## What if I need extra help with the language used in the course material?

Please let your mentor know of your concerns, they can speak to Nasra who will let you know more about the language support tutor.