

What is the Challenge?

This project invites students to take part in a school-based enterprise scheme aimed at developing key business and financial skills and supporting their local hospice. The aim is for each group to raise as much money as they can from a £50 start-up over a 10 week period. At the heart of the challenge is a powerful dual purpose: empowering young people through enterprise while raising vital funds for St Raphael's.

What does a mentor do?

As a mentor, you will:

- Support and guide students as they develop and run their own mini enterprises using a £50 start up fund.
- Share real-world insights into budgeting, marketing, planning and decision-making.
- Act as a positive role model, helping students grow in confidence and think strategically.
- Offer encouragement and feedback as students face challenges and learn from them.
- Promote entrepreneurial thinking and the value of social responsibility.

Why become a mentor?

- Make a real difference to students' education, confidence and aspirations.
- Use your time and experience to support a local hospice making a vital impact in your community.

What we're looking for:

- Experience or interest in business, finance entrepreneurship, or community work.
- A supportive and encouraging approach.
- A few hours of time across the challenge period (flexible and coordinated with schools)

Role Profile: School Entrepreneur Challenge (SEC) Mentor

Location: Mentoring may be a mix of in-person and virtual sessions.

Time commitment: Flexible, typically 1-2 hours per week or fortnightly throughout the duration of the 10 week enterprise challenge.

Reporting to: Samantha Bourne - challenge lead at St Raphael's Hospice.

Purpose of the role:

To support students taking part in the challenge by providing real-world financial and business insights, advice, and encouragement. The mentor will act as a positive role model, guiding students as they make strategic decisions, manage budgets, and develop entrepreneurial thinking.

Key responsibilities:

- Offer guidance on financial planning, budgeting, pricing, and profit margins for their fundraising events and activity
- Support students in understanding core business concepts (e.g. marketing, sales, product development, customer service).
- Help students review and reflect on their challenge progress and decision-making.
- Attend key enterprise sessions, planning meetings, or events (where possible).

- Provide constructive feedback on business plans or presentations.
- Encourage teamwork, leadership, problem-solving and resilience.
- Share relevant experiences and industry insight in an age-appropriate way.
- Uphold the school's safeguarding and conduct standards at all times.

Skills and experience:

- Experience in business, finance, entrepreneurship, or a related field.
- Support students in understanding core business concepts (e.g. marketing, sales, product development, customer service).
- Help students review and reflect on their challenge progress and decision-making.
- Attend key enterprise sessions, planning meetings, or events (where possible).
- Provide constructive feedback on business plans or presentations.
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What we offer:

- The chance to make a direct, positive impact on students' education and aspirations.
- Opportunity to support a local hospice with your time and skills.
- Connect and give back to the local community and promote your profession.
- Invitation to Launch Night and Awards Night.
- Certificate of appreciation (upon request).

Safeguarding and Compliance:

All mentors must comply with the school's safeguarding policies. A DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check may be required depending on the nature and frequency of contact with students.

Providing vital hospice care to our community in Merton and Sutton

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