

Neston Primary School Learning Mentor Support

Mrs Furlong & Mrs Tedford are the Learning Mentors at Neston Primary School. Learning Mentors work with pupils, families, school staff and other professionals, to help pupils develop their potential by removing barriers to learning which may be in the school or at home.



Our Learning Mentor's Room

New Pupils

One of our mentors will always make an extra effort to check that pupils have settled well. Mrs Furlong or Mrs Tedford will make contact during the first few days, take time to talk to new pupils and take them on a tour of the school to ensure they are familiar with the building, how we do things and introduce them to members of staff. This support will continue for a few weeks, but the children and their parents are always welcome to contact either Mrs Furlong or Mrs Tedford should they need to.

Barriers to Learning

A barrier to learning is any factor that prevents a child from being in a suitable emotional, physical or psychological state to engage in their lesson and learn.

Some examples of these barriers are:

Low self-esteem, lack of self-confidence, friendship difficulties, lack of social skills, medical needs, absence from school, lateness to school, feeling vulnerable, bullying, family difficulties, bereavement

If a child experiences one factor or a combination of the above barriers to learning then this may lead to low self-esteem, disruptive behaviour or negative attitude to

learning which can result in the child not fulfilling their potential. A Learning Mentor helps the child to develop strategies and skills to enable them to make positive choices and learn.

Learning Mentors work with pupils on a one to one basis inside and outside the classroom to address the barriers to learning.

Learning Mentors are also involved in running different activities which include:

- Liaising with parents/carers and other agencies to support pupil progress
- Observation of pupils in class and on the playground
- Mediation work between peers, pupils and parents/carers
- Supporting pupils transferring schools
- Setting weekly achievable targets for individual children who may be underachieving due to a lack of confidence, friendship difficulties and inappropriate behaviour in and out of the classroom.

Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance and punctuality are clearly linked to children making good progress in their learning. It ensures that children settle into school and experience the stability and security that they need in order to achieve their best.

Your child needs to be in school every day during term time unless he/she is ill or attending a medical appointment. A letter will be sent from Mrs Furlong or Mrs Tedford if there are concerns about your child's attendance.

If you find you are having difficulty with your child's attendance or punctuality then please come and speak to Mrs Furlong or Mrs Tedford and they can offer support where appropriate.

Mrs Furlong and Mrs Tedford aim to provide non-judgemental support for all children and their families. If you would like an informal chat or have any issues or concerns you would like to discuss, then please do not hesitate to contact them.

Parents wanting to speak to our Learning Mentors can ring school 0151 338 2500 or speak to them at the start of the day - Mrs Furlong or Mrs Tedford are in the entrance hall at the start of each day.

“Pupils feel safe and well looked after. Emotional well-being has a high profile in school. Staff work closely with individual pupils and families and with external agencies when necessary”.

“A culture of safety pervades the school”.

“The work of two learning mentors very effectively supports the personal development and emotional well-being of children who are most at risk of underachieving” **Ofsted May 2016**

