**GRASSROOT ACTIVATORS PROGRAMME (GAP) – MENTOR BRIEFING AND APPLICATION FORM**

Mentoring is a key feature of the Grassroots Activators Programme (GAP). Each young person will have two mentors – a VCSE mentor and a Business mentor – that they work with on a one-to-one basis. This briefing describes the mentor role and responsibilities.

 **If you would like to apply to be a VCSE or Business mentor, please complete the application form and return it to** **info@grassrootcommunities.org** **or contact us if you have any questions.**

1. **What’s required of GAP mentors?**

The mentoring will be two hours once every 3 weeks for each mentor. The likelihood is it will be a Wednesday afternoon – after lunch.

The VCSE mentor will support a young person holistically through the programme, including helping them make connections to other voluntary sector groups who could collaborate or support with the social and environmental action projects and social enterprise projects. The VCSE mentor will also help their mentee make connections for potential future placements or employment opportunities. The VCSE mentor could also practically support with advice and help when delivering the social action/ enterprise projects in the community.

The Business mentor will build a relationship with their mentee and support them to confirm a relevant work placement in Term 3 based on their passion and interests. Longer term, they will support the young person to clarify what it is they want to do following GAP and to make the relevant connections and open doors where possible for this to happen e.g. further education, volunteering, apprenticeship or employment.

1. **How will mentors and mentees be matched?**

We ask all prospective mentors to fill in a short application form – see below.

We have a two-stage process for recruiting young people onto GAP which is to be simple and accessible. First, young people will email us with their name, age, address and contact details and attach a one-page A4 document that gives a brief overview of them personally; outlines what difference they want to make and what really matters to them and why; and state what their passion/ interest is e.g. animals, or becoming a vet, sport etc. Alternatively, young people can send us short videos with this information, for example recorded on their mobile phone, or provide the information by phone. Second, young people who are shortlisted for GAP from their applications will have an informal chat with Grassroot Communities (in a way that suits them e.g. by phone, video, or face-to-face) before a final selection is made based on young people’s interest and passion

We will match mentors and mentees based on the information they provide and having informal conversations with them. If the matches really don’t work out, we will be flexible. However, we expect everyone to be open to giving the matches a good try!

1. **Will training be provided for mentors?**

Grassroot Communities will run a mentor training session in September 2022 to provide more information about mentor and mentee roles and responsibilities and practical matters such as safeguarding. Ongoing support for mentors will be provided by Grassroot Communities and mentors will also be encouraged to support each other informally.

**MENTOR APPLICATION FORM**

**Please complete this form and return it to** **info@grassrootcommunities.org** **along with a photo.**

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| --- | --- |
| **NAME:** |  |
| **EMAIL:** |  |
| **PHONE NUMBER:**  |  |
| **EMPLOYER AND JOB TITLE:** |  |

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| **Please tell us in 200 words about you as a person:** |

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| **Please tell us in 200 words about you professionally:** |

**THANK YOU!**