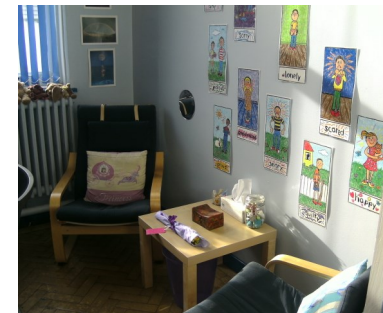


School Mentors

A guide for parents & carers



What pupils have said about the benefits of working with a mentor:

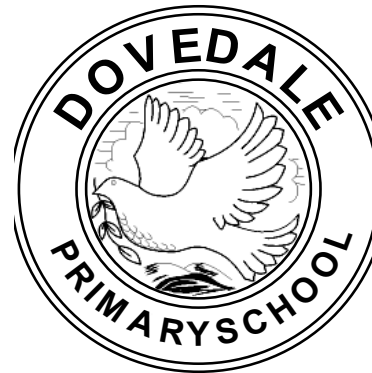
"It made me happy talking to Miss Gallagher, I liked talking about my feelings and sharing my news" **Reception pupil**

"I'm in control of my confidence and happiness, that makes me feel strong." **Year 4 pupil**

*I enjoyed being able to share and talk about my feelings" **Year 2 pupil***



Dovedale Primary School is committed to safeguarding.
We have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
If we have any concerns that a child may be suffering harm, we have no choice but to refer to Social Services where appropriate.
The Safeguarding Officer in school is **Mr Nik Smith**
The nominated Safeguarding Governor is **Ms Nicky Walsh**



Dovedale Primary School
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Liverpool L18 1JX
School Office: 0151 733 4232
Infant Department Mentor -
Michelle Fox
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Junior Department Mentor
Nicola Gwilym
n.gwilym@dovedaleprimary.co.uk

What do the School Mentors Do?

Who are the Mentors?



Nicola Gwilym is the **Junior** Department Mentor. She has 30 years experience working in Education as both a teacher and a Mentor. She is a qualified person centred Counsellor.



Michelle Fox is the **Infant** Department school mentor. She has 22 years experience working in a variety of educational and pastoral support roles which includes 7 years as the Senior learning support officer in Dovedale Infants.

What is the main role of the mentors?

To offer support to pupils with personal issues that are worrying or upsetting them.

Reasons for referral

- **Confidence and Self esteem**
- **Anxiety**
- **Bereavement**
- **Family issues**
- **Anger issues**
- **Friendship issues**
- **Transition from year to year/Secondary school**

How do the mentors support a pupil?

One to One support

At the first meeting the mentor and pupil discuss what the issues are & work together on how they can change them. The pupil can then decide if they want to continue meeting with the mentor. Meetings last approximately 30 minutes.

Some pupils only need one appointment, others might have several appointments over a few weeks or months.

Quote from Year 6 pupil

"I liked that I had someone to talk to and tell her all my worries and fears"

Pupils are encouraged to share with their class teacher and parents/carers what they are working on with the mentor.

Work shops

The mentors run workshops for small groups of pupils. They include:-



"Confidence Changers" - Increasing confidence/self esteem

"Lunchtime Clubs called Smile for a while" for new pupils & other pupils who want to increase their friendship groups

"Moving on" workshops to support transition from Year 2 to 3 and Secondary school

"Friendship workshops" - to support pupils friendships and to help pupils to make friends

How does a pupil get to see a mentor ?

Parents/carers can contact the school to refer their child. Sometimes a member of staff will refer them. A letter is sent home before any formal meetings take place unless verbal consent is given by a parent/carer to the school.

Reception, Year 1 and year 2

Pupils can ask any member of staff to refer them to a mentor or use the worry boxes to speak to the Mentors

Year 3 to 6 A pupil can ask any member of staff for a referral form. Their teacher will check the form & discuss whether they can help in the first instance. If not, the pupil is referred to a mentor.

How can a mentor support Parents?

Parents/carers can contact a mentor to discuss issues regarding their child (see contact details on reverse)

Feedback from Parents

"I am so impressed with the mentoring that S had with Miss Gallagher after her granddad died. She really enjoyed the sessions".....parent of Year 1 pupil

"I am very pleased with how the school dealt with my concerns & with the professional approach of the mentor"parent of Year 2 pupil



"It has provided him with a 'safe place' & opportunity to talk through his worries".....parent of year 3 pupil

"We believe his happiness is thanks to the mentoring. He likes going to school again.".....parents of year 5