

# What is an IntoUniversity Volunteer?

## Inspiring young people to achieve

The University of Nottingham is working in partnership with IntoUniversity - an educational charity supporting young people from disadvantaged communities –to provide local learning centres, where young people are inspired to achieve. As an IntoUniversity volunteer, you will be an integral part of our team and help to raise aspirations and attainment among local school children and inspire and them to go to University, whilst developing your employability skills.

Find out below what previous volunteers have said about the role and the experience they gained from working with us:



I had a fantastic time as a volunteer, and you can do so many different things like mentoring, academic support and leading campus tours. A very rewarding moment came from volunteering on a buddy day. I worked with some year 8 students, showing them around campus and helping out in academic sessions. One of the students told a member of staff that he thought I was cool. The fact that I had made going to university seem cool was massively rewarding. Being an IntoUniversity volunteer also enabled me to complete a module for the Nottingham Advantage Award. **James Howell, American Studies**



As a mentor I built a strong, professional relationship with a young person to help them succeed and realise their potential. We worked together for two years to enhance her chances of being accepted into university. Her grades were ever increasing, which was very exciting for both of us! We had lots of fun sessions, learning skills from each other and trying new things together – I think that is what made us such a strong pair. My advice to others would be: do it, you won't regret it! Every meeting is different and exciting. Plus, you're doing a great thing. Do it! **Sarin Leigh, Physics with Medical Physics**

One of my fondest memories with IntoUniversity was when I helped at a FOCUS week on campus. It was a Friday, and all week the students had been working on projects. I managed to stay to watch them present the projects, which involved a bit of singing and dancing too! Afterwards, the children experienced their own graduation, complete with hats and gowns. Parents had come along to watch the event. Seeing the students graduating was such a lovely and rewarding experience! I loved helping to give the student an experience and understanding of university that they would not have had otherwise.

**Rhian Sheady, Civil Engineering**



I was attracted to IntoUniversity, as they work with a broad range of young people, from primary school to sixth form. Also, I really wanted to get involved in the local Nottingham community, and IntoUniversity allowed me to work in three different areas of the city. The atmosphere in the IntoUniversity centres is really positive. The support for both you and your mentee from staff at the centre is very good. My work as an IntoUniversity volunteer has opened my eyes to the variety of careers in the charity sector. Having gained experience in such a rewarding and often challenging area of work, I am now certain that I want to work in this field. **George Smalley, History**



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