



2021
FUTURE
STORIES
PROGRAMME



Working together to extend opportunity, build cultural capital and support wellbeing

Now in its sixth year, Reading Schools Future Stories program operates in partnership with local primary schools to develop and support a range of activities.

Its focus continues to be on developing supportive mentoring relationships between primary school pupils and Sixth form students who give their time and energy to support the program.



During 2020, we developed and sustained a model of online mentoring that has proven to benefit students in need of additional 1:1 support or encouragement to improve their attainment and self-confidence.

"The children enjoyed the session and reported that it was 'hard'. I told them that's a good thing as it means you are learning!"

"Tian's 1:1 was particularly impressed by how vocal he is during the sessions as he is normally very quiet and shy in whole class environments."

Tori Taylor – Assistant Head, English Martyrs



Thank you to all the schools that have worked with us to offer this mentoring over the past 18 months.

Looking ahead to the 2021 academic year, we have a range of opportunities that this brochure outlines in brief.

We look forward to building partnerships with individual schools, particularly in the Reading area, and develop and sustain a range of carefully planned activities for students in the months ahead.

Tom Evans
Assistant Headteacher



Maths and English

We are able to run mentoring sessions with either 6-8 students on a 1:1 basis, or a similar number of pairs: generally, these sessions operate with students in Years 5 & 6.

Groups of Year 12 students from Reading School volunteer slots of their time every week. We then offer these slots to schools and set up a series of scheduled meetings over Microsoft Teams.

Supervised by staff in both the host and partner schools, sessions then run with either one or two mentees in each meeting. Content can be planned bespoke for students based on identified needs, or can be generic for the whole group; all students benefit from regular input, encouragement and support.

Our Year 12 students love participating and obviously benefit hugely from serving and from the affirmation of being able to contribute to others in the local community. These sessions operate with students in Years 5 & 6.

In 2021, we are partnering with Reading FC and their Primary Stars program which is also worth consideration in terms of developing a partnership approach and increasing the capacity for mentoring within primary schools using outside resources if required.

We would love to talk to you about the possibility of mentoring whether we have worked with you before, or as part of your planning for the year ahead.

Please contact our Future Stories mentoring coordinator: cheston@reading-school.co.uk for more information and to start a conversation.

A student in a school uniform is focused on a science project. They are sitting at a desk with various electronic components. A small light bulb is connected to a circuit, and a digital multimeter is visible, displaying a reading. The student is holding a pen, ready to take notes. The background shows other students and papers, suggesting a classroom or workshop setting.

Science Workshops

New for 2021, we are offering in-house, teacher-led science workshops for any of our partner schools. These can run with students in Years 5 & 6.

Generally, these would run after school, at Reading school and operate as a curriculum extension trip.

We are able to offer a range of practical based science sessions with a problem-solving theme.

This is a great opportunity to develop your student's exposure to STEM subjects.

Please contact our Future Stories extension co-ordinator othomas@reading-school.co.uk to find out more.

Outdoor adventurous activities and team building

We believe in an holistic approach to education and are particularly focused on character education at Reading School. We have an in-house team that delivers a range of adventurous activities with a particular focus on student interaction and collaboration.

Working with our team of coaches and student facilitators we are able to run canoeing and paddle boarding sessions for groups of 12-15 students on the Thames at Wokingham Waterside Centre and can also run bespoke team building sessions on-site at Reading School for groups of a similar size.

We recognise that many students have missed these sorts of opportunities in the past year. We would love to work with you, to extend opportunities to students that would not be able to access experiences of this nature.

We will work with you to plan activities, craft bespoke narratives with specific outcomes in mind and provide risk assessments, resources and transport as required.

Please email dtridgell@reading-school.co.uk to find out more or to start discussions.

Feedback from participants

"Thank you for teaching me to learn new things. I appreciate that you spend 45 minutes with me every week. I hope you have a great time teaching others. Hope you have a good summer!"

From Amiri

"Thank you for the support in Maths and thank you for letting us show off are skills. Thank you for the time you gave us to teach us. It was a great experience. I really appreciate how much effort you put into teaching us."

Have a great summer!

From Adam

"Thank you for teaching us and making me improve myself. I enjoy working on Maths for you and I would like to thank you for the experience. We appreciate your hard work. Have a great summer!"

From Purety

"I had a wonderful experience when you taught me. It was a pleasure. I became smarter because of you. I wish you all in the best in your future career."

From Iseb

"Thank you for teaching me, it helped alot for me to understand fractions. I improved alot in maths and I can finally catch up to my class. I appreacite everything that you have done for me. Have a great summer holiday! I wish to see you again soon."

From Jessica



What next?

As a school, we would love to work with you to extend a range of opportunities to students from all backgrounds. Some of our funding targets students in receipt of FSM and Pupil Premium, however, we are not limited in the scope of our provision and recognise that the impact of COVID 19 has been significant on both attainment and wellbeing.

There may be other areas of opportunity you would like to discuss and we are keen to develop sustainable relationships with local schools that share our philosophy.

If you are interested in finding out more about the range of the activities detailed and the development of strategic partnership, please contact tevens@reading-school.co.uk.

CELEBRATING 900 YEARS OF READING SCHOOL

900

YEARS

Reading School

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