



Spark is a Loughton based youth project. Predominantly an alternative education centre for year 9-11s, Spark also offers a mentoring service. Spark Mentoring is an exciting initiative aimed at young people from age 11-19 who may be having difficulties in school or college. We seek to encourage and instil aspirations through our targeted one to one mentoring scheme. We want to challenge young people to become the best that they can be and reach their full potential, whether that be in education, training or work.

You may be wondering how mentoring differs from 'just having a chat'. Mentoring is a structured programme – it happens at a regular time each week with a designated and trained mentor. Whilst held in a very informal way, often over a cup of tea and a game of Uno, the content is structured and is aimed at addressing specific needs.

A young person who is currently being mentored at Spark was referred to us by the school as she had poor attendance caused by a combination of anger issues, problems at home and anxiety about school. By being able to meet with one of our mentors once a week, out of school, in a safe and informal environment she has been able to build a relationship with her mentor, start to talk through her problems, and as a result her attendance at school has improved, as have her anxiety and relationships at home.

Young people can be referred to Spark by the school, by a friend or family member or young people can come to us directly. We have a limited amount of funding available for those who would struggle to meet the costs themselves.

If you are interested in finding out more about Spark, referring a young person to our Mentoring service, or becoming a volunteer mentor yourself, contact Spark on 020 8508 6743 or spark@worthunlimited.co.uk