



## Medway Education Business Partnership Medway Mentoring Programme Case Study

Mentor's Name:

Diane Thompson

How long have you been mentoring?

3 years

Why did you become a mentor?

To play a part in the local community and also as a parent of 2 teenage daughters, I felt I could support a student.

Tell us how your relationship has developed:

I was initially asked to work with the student as she was new to the country and needed a 'friend'. Since then, our sessions have been used to discuss schoolwork, school and home problems and opportunities for the future.

What did you expect from the programme, and how has it been actually?

I wanted to be a benefit to the student and a listening ear – this has been achieved together with much more and I hope I've been a positive influence in her life.

What have you gained from being involved in the programme?

An awareness of the challenges faced by youngsters and the satisfaction of knowing I'm making a difference.

How do you think your mentee has gained from the programme?

Increased confidence and self motivation and hopefully more focussed with regards to her studies. I was incredibly proud to learn that the school had created an award for this student – 'Best GCSE results from an overseas student'.

Would you recommend mentoring to others, and why?

Absolutely – although my visits require a 40 minute round trip, I always leave with a smile on my face.

Comments/opinion from your mentee:

My mentee has advised that she has recently completed an evaluation form. She has said that she uses her sessions as an 'escape' from everything going on in her life and how she can talk to me about anything and everything.