



Local Village Network
Ormiston Beachcroft Academy
Impact Report: September to December 2024

INTRODUCTION

Supported by volunteer mentors from Cummins Ltd. and Visa, Local Village Network delivered the following activities at Ormiston Beachcroft Academy between 18th of September and 11th of December 2024:

- 2 Amplify Me programmes
- 3 one-2-one online mentoring sessions



Local Village Network (LVN) is dedicated to helping young people thrive by expanding their access to positive adult role models and real-world career insights. Our Amplify Me mentoring programme connects students with professionals from a wide range of industries, opening up new possibilities and broadening their understanding of the working world.

Designed to support personal development and employability, Amplify Me helps students build confidence, communication skills, and a forward-thinking mindset. By hearing directly from mentors about their career journeys, students gain valuable insight into the variety of paths available to them and begin to see how their own strengths can be applied in the world beyond school.

The programme is aligned with Gatsby Benchmarks, PSHE, and careers education objectives. LVN offers students a unique opportunity to develop key life skills and aspirations, while strengthening learning engagement.

Students who took part reported feeling more motivated, more confident, and better prepared to pursue their future goals. The opportunity to interact with professionals not only made different careers feel more accessible, but also helped students understand what skills and attitudes are valued in the workplace.

The impact of the programme is captured through student feedback, mentor reflections, and presentations delivered by students in the final week—providing clear evidence of growth in mindset, communication, and career readiness.

DELIVERY OF THE PROGRAMME

2 Amplify Me programmes were successfully delivered, each consisting of 5 one-hour-long classroom sessions and a 2-hour trip to the volunteers' offices. In total, students learned from and networked with 10 volunteer mentors from the volunteers' organisations across the 12 sessions.

- Cummins Ltd. supported 1 programme
- Visa supported 1 programme

In each classroom session, students were guided through the LVN Amplify Me workbook by the LVN Facilitator and 3-5 volunteers. Volunteers immersed students in their career journeys, challenges faced along the way, and the skills needed in their professions and industries. The workbooks included exercises that help students to think about who they are, their skills, experience, ambitions, role models, and how they can play a part in society – as well as providing a record for students of their progress and structure for the programme.

The programmes benefited 23 students: 63% male and 37% female.

In the final session of each programme, students were able to interact and network with even more volunteers from the volunteers' organisations. In these sessions, students showcased their increased confidence and ability to communicate, by presenting their personal goals, ideas, and aspirations to an audience of working professionals and their peers – an opportunity that many students would have been too afraid to take before starting the Amplify Me programme.

ONLINE MENTORING

All students who have completed Amplify Me are eligible to receive free one-2-one online mentoring. During these sessions, students are supported to:

- Write a revision plan to prepare for their exams
- Write a CV that will stand out
- Practice for interview
- Research jobs and the qualifications needed
- Research college courses
- Research universities and write a UCAS application
- Research what's needed for an apprenticeship
- Research part-time jobs and/or work experience

Under teacher supervision, and using the bespoke LVN online mentoring platform, students are matched with mentors from the LVN network. The Local Village Network theory of change is that by meeting 10 people outside your usual sphere of influence young people can drastically improve their employability prospects.

Our methodology provides an opportunity for your students to gain perspective from multiple professionals. Professionals and students work through the LVN online mentoring workbook.

IMPACT

OUTPUT MEASUREMENTS

2 cohorts of years 10-11 students benefited from the Amplify Me programme:

- 23 students were supported to gain awareness of opportunities, raise their aspiration, and develop important skills through the deeper intervention.
- 10 classroom sessions were delivered.
- 2 final week trips delivered. Students visited Visa Europe and Cummins Inc and presented their ideas and personal statements to audiences of working professionals and their peers.

7 One-2-One Online Mentoring sessions were delivered:

- 2 students benefited.
- 7 mentors took part.



IMPACT EVALUATION

Students were asked to complete a short evaluation form, which allowed them to reflect on how the programme has helped them in regard to LVN's goals, categorised into **Connected**, **Valued and Understood**, and **Supported**; and ranked on a five-point Likert scale. These metrics give us important feedback on the impact we generate and will inform the further development of our Amplify Me programme.

Connected: Young people better understand how they can connect with the world of work and build networks.

- *"My understanding of jobs and careers options has increased."* - 91% of students
- *"I've discovered new job roles and career options that have given me a better understanding of the world of work"* - 82% of students
- *"I know how connecting with people can help me gain career and education advice."* - 82% of students
- *"I better understand how trying new things helps build networks."* - 64% of students
- *"I understand how networking can help me build a better future."* - 82% of students
- *"I've discovered new education pathways I'd like to explore"* - 73% of students
- *"I understand how it's important to surround myself with positive influences."* - 82% of students

Valued and Understood: Young people gain increased confidence and resilience to pursue their aspirations.

- *"I feel more confident to ask for help."* - 82% of students
- *"I understand that it's normal to experience setbacks on my career journey and it's important to keep on trying"* - 64% of students
- *"I feel more motivated to invest into my future by working hard now."* - 73% of students
- *"I feel more hopeful for the future."* - 73% of students
- *"I am more confident to speak to new and diverse people."* - 82% of students
- *"I appreciate more how everyone I meet can be a valuable support now or in the future."* - 82% of students
- *"I better understand that I can contribute in the workplace."* - 73% of students

Supported: Young people feel better prepared for the world of work, with an awareness of their strengths and skills, and those employers are looking for.

- *"I have a clearer path for my future."* - 73% of students
- *"I understand how my education is part of my journey into employment."* - 73% of students
- *"I have a better understanding of my own transferable and hard skills"* - 91% of students
- *"I have a better understanding of how the skills I already have will be useful for employment."* - 82% of students
- *"I am better at communicating and highlighting my skills."* - 64% of students

- *"I better understand the qualities and skills employers are looking for."* - 91% of students
- *"I have improved content for my CV."* - 73% of students
- *"I have a better understanding of the world of work."* - 100% of students

100% of students answered Yes (50%) or Maybe (50%) for further online mentoring

100% of students said they would recommend the programme to a friend.

What activity did you enjoy the most on this programme?

Choice	% Chosen By
Meeting the mentors	43%
Mapping out my future	43%
Identifying my skills	14%

QUALITATIVE FEEDBACK

We have gathered qualitative feedback throughout the programme from students. Students provided statements regarding their aspirations and learning points and interviews with volunteers and teachers provided us with additional feedback.

Through the programme, the students developed their understanding of the skills and experiences they already have and how to build on these and develop others. This has improved their sense of identity and knowledge of their own strength and weaknesses.

What is the most memorable thing you take away from this mentoring programme?

"Exploring the company and all I have learnt from the lessons."

"Public speaking - getting up and saying the speech."

"Networking is crucial to getting jobs."

"Knowledge and networks."

"The fact that you should keep going no matter what."

"Learning about other people's journey."

"Knowing the mentors progress."

"Coming into the office."

What have you learnt about yourself?

"I have learnt that I want to do an apprenticeship or something to do with construction."

"That I am capable of more than I think."

"I know what I want to do."

"That I am able to do anything if I put my mind to it."

"That I am interested in hair."

"That I'm confident."

"A lot."

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

During our Amplify Me, Online Mentoring and Work Experience programmes, students have the opportunity to connect with a wide range of professionals from our network.

Below you can see some of the businesses that support Local Village Network both in school and online.

We look forward to supporting more of your students next academic year.

