



**Job Title: Associate Mentor**

**Freelance position - Ad Hoc Basis**

**Location:** Oxfordshire

**Pay:** £20 / hour [1 hour session = £40 (30 mins prep + 1 hour session + 30 mins prep), term time only (39 weeks/ annum)]

**Deadline:** 17th May 2024

## **About Jaskulla Mentoring**

Jaskulla Mentoring is here to guide children, parents, carers, and professionals on a journey of self-discovery through compassion, safe connections, and creativity. We believe in the power of emotions, both positive and negative, as a window into an individual's inner world. Our goal is to help children understand their emotions, navigate them safely, and rediscover their inherent wisdom.

For over 17 years, I, the founder of Jaskulla Mentoring, have worked with children, parents, and professionals in Oxfordshire. My passion lies in supporting children with complex educational needs, communication difficulties, and challenging behaviours who are at risk of exclusion. By helping them manage their emotional responses, I've witnessed countless transformations. Children reconnect with their inner child, rediscover their joy, and return to the classroom with a renewed sense of purpose.

At Jaskulla Mentoring, we understand the importance of early intervention. While early intervention is key to preventing exclusion, we also recognise that challenges can arise at any stage in a young person's life. Therefore, our services are available to children in their early years, primary education, and beyond, offering support to young people navigating adolescence.

We offer bespoke programs tailored to each child's unique needs. Our services include:

- Individualised Interventions for Children: We create a safe space for children to explore their emotions and develop healthy coping mechanisms.
- Consultations for Schools: We partner with schools to provide guidance and support for educators working with children facing challenges.
- Intensive Care Packages: For children requiring more intensive support, we offer comprehensive intervention plans.
- Regular Intervention: We work with children and families on an ongoing basis to help them navigate difficulties and build lasting skills.
- Guidance and Coaching: We empower parents and professionals with the tools and strategies to support the children in their care.

Our mission is to ensure every child and young person feels safe, understood, and empowered to reach their full potential. We believe that by working together, we can create a brighter future for our children.

## Your Responsibilities - the role:

Jaskulla Mentoring is seeking passionate and dedicated individuals to join our team as Therapeutic Mentors. In this role, you'll play a vital role in supporting vulnerable children and young people facing emotional and behavioural challenges.

- **Develop Individualised Interventions:** You will work collaboratively with children, parents/carers, and professionals to create bespoke therapeutic plans tailored to each child's unique needs. These plans will focus on fostering emotional understanding, developing healthy coping mechanisms, and building resilience.
- **Facilitate Therapeutic Sessions:** You will create a safe and supportive space for children to explore their emotions and experiences. This may involve activities, discussions, and creative exploration.
- **Communicate Effectively:** You will maintain consistent communication with parents/carers, teachers, and other professionals involved in the child's life. This may include sharing progress reports, attending meetings, and collaborating on strategies for ongoing support.
- **Provide Long-Term Guidance:** You will offer ongoing support and guidance to children and their families, empowering them to navigate challenges and build lasting skills.
- **Weekly Reporting:** You will document your work with children through detailed and insightful weekly reports.
- **Continuous Learning:** We are committed to your professional development. You will be expected to actively participate in ongoing training opportunities, including team meetings focused on furthering your therapeutic skills and knowledge of evidence-based practices.
- **Supervision:** Jaskulla Mentoring prioritises your growth and well-being. You will receive regular supervision from a qualified professional to ensure effective intervention and self-care practices.
- **Trauma-Informed and Neurodiversity Affirming:** We believe in creating a safe and inclusive space for all children. You will be expected to maintain a trauma-informed and neurodiversity-affirming approach in your work.

## What it Takes to Be a Associate Therapeutic Mentor at Jaskulla Mentoring

At Jaskulla Mentoring, we're searching for passionate individuals who are dedicated to helping vulnerable children and young people. Here's what you'll need to thrive in this role:

### Essential:

- **Experience Working with Children:** We require a minimum of 5 years experience working with children facing emotional and behavioural challenges. This experience can be within schools, youth work settings, or similar environments.
  - **Trauma-Informed Approach:** A demonstrated understanding and application of trauma-informed practices is essential.
  - **Knowledge of Child Development:** A strong foundation in child development is necessary to effectively support children of varying ages.
  - **Effective Communication:** Excellent communication skills are required to build rapport with children, parents/carers, and professionals.
  - **Mentoring Expertise:** Experience in mentoring children and young people is highly valued.
  - **Commitment to Growth:** A willingness to participate in ongoing training and professional development is essential.
- Resilience, Confidence, and Empathy:** These qualities are vital for building trusting relationships with children and supporting them on their individual journeys.

### Desirable:

- **Experience in Specialist Settings:** Experience working in Alternative Provisions, Pupil Referral Units, or schools with a focus on Social, Emotional, and Mental Health [SEMH] is a plus.
- **Experience with Diverse Needs:** Experience working with children with a range of needs, including ADHD, Autism, communication difficulties, and challenging behaviours, is beneficial.

- **Understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs):** Knowledge of the impact of ACEs on children is valued.
- **Restorative Practices:** We believe in fostering positive change through restorative practices. Experience using restorative approaches is a plus.

## Our Values

At Jaskulla Mentoring, we are guided by a core set of values that shape everything we do:

- **Empowering Children and Young People:** We believe in the potential of every child and young person. Our interventions are designed to empower them to navigate challenges, build resilience, and reach their full potential.
- **Compassion and Respect:** We approach each child and family with compassion, respect, and a deep understanding of their unique experiences.
- **Trauma-Informed Care:** We create safe and supportive spaces grounded in trauma-informed practices that promote healing and well-being.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** We celebrate diversity and foster a welcoming environment for all children, young people, and families regardless of background or belief.
- **Lifelong Learning:** We are dedicated to continuous learning and improvement. We invest in our team's professional development to ensure they have the latest knowledge and skills to best support the children and young people we serve.

**Additionally, we embrace the following values in our work:**

- **Free of Judgement:** We create a safe space where children feel comfortable expressing themselves openly and honestly.
- **Creativity:** We believe in the power of creativity to explore emotions, build resilience, and foster self-discovery.
- **Curiosity:** We approach each child with a sense of curiosity, seeking to understand their unique world and experiences.

- **Calm, Clarity, and Courage:** We provide a calm and clear presence, offering support and guidance with courage and empathy.
- **Connectedness:** We believe in fostering strong connections with children, families, and professionals to create a supportive network.
- **Confidence:** Our goal is to empower children to develop a strong sense of self-confidence and self-worth.
- **Playfulness:** We incorporate playfulness into our interventions, recognising its power to engage children and promote learning.
- **Patience:** We understand that change takes time. We approach our work with patience and a commitment to long-term growth.
- **Presence:** We are fully present with each child, offering our undivided attention and support.
- **Perspective:** We help children develop a healthy perspective on challenges and emotions.
- **Persistence:** We believe in the power of persistence and celebrate every step forward on a child's journey.

By embracing these values, we create a nurturing environment where children and young people can heal, grow, and thrive.

**At Jaskulla Mentoring, we value diversity and a collaborative spirit. We believe a great team is built on a strong foundation of unique strengths, experiences, and perspectives. As a Therapeutic Mentor Associate, you'll be an important part of our team, working on a freelance, ad-hoc basis.**

In this role, you'll share our values and deliver high-quality intervention sessions to vulnerable children and young people at risk of exclusion. We'll provide support to help you tailor your approach, combining Jaskulla's methodologies with your own experience and knowledge.

Here are some key points to remember:

- We value your unique strengths and perspectives.
- You'll be working as part of a diverse and collaborative team.
- The role is freelance and ad-hoc.

- While working with us, you'll represent Jaskulla Mentoring and refrain from promoting other services.
- Travel time is not covered.
- The compensation is £20 per hour, which translates to £40 per session.

We are looking for passionate individuals who are excited to make a difference in the lives of young people. If this sounds like you, we encourage you to apply!

## **How to Apply for a Therapeutic Mentor Position at Jaskulla Mentoring**

We encourage passionate individuals interested in joining our team as a Therapeutic Mentor to submit their application.

### **What to Include in Your Application:**

- **Email:** Please send your application materials in an email entitled: "Therapeutic Mentor: [Your Name]" to [lisa@jaskullamentoring.co.uk](mailto:lisa@jaskullamentoring.co.uk)
- **Cover Letter:** In your cover letter, explain your passion for supporting children facing emotional and behavioural challenges and how your skills and experience align with the requirements outlined above.
- **Resume/CV:** Attach your resume or CV detailing your relevant experience and qualifications.
- **References:** Include contact information for two professional references.
- **Additional Information:** Feel free to share any other relevant information you believe would strengthen your application, including accessibility requirements.

### **Selection Process:**

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for a video interview with a member of our team.

We look forward to receiving your application and the opportunity to learn more about how you can contribute to Jaskulla Mentoring's mission of supporting vulnerable children and young people.

