



THE YOUNG ACADEMY

For disruptive innovation in education

The Young Academy Programme from the Young Foundation

Pro-bono Mentor

The Young Academy is a business support programme designed to aid the growth of social ventures. We recruit ambitious social ventures that have developed an innovative idea, demonstrated it works and delivered positive social impact.

Entry onto The Young Academy is a highly competitive process and is best suited to ventures wishing to fully dissect their business model and act on advice from external experts.

Our focus is on helping social ventures who are tackling inequality in education.

This is where you come in...

We are looking for highly experienced business experts to provide key insight, strategy advice and signposting to a social venture on The Young Academy programme. We are looking for people who can offer our ventures strategic advice / insight into how they may scale up their approach.

Joining The Young Academy programme as a pro-bono Mentor is by invitation only. Mentors will be selected because we believe their experience, insight and knowledge will add a huge amount of value. As our network of mentors builds, you will be part of an exclusive club, with unique access to some of the UK's most inspirational social ventures.

The Young Academy programme runs from the 3rd November 2014 to 2nd March 2015

Mentors will be carefully matched to a social venture so that both mentor and mentee can get the most from the relationship. You will work directly with the senior management team of the social venture to impart your knowledge and expertise during the programme, informing key decision making that will shape the future of the organisation.

Your commitment

We appreciate your time is precious. We would expect you to meet your entrepreneur for **2 hours every month** during the programme. This will ideally be face to face but can also be via phone or Skype if this is more convenient for both parties. Our core team will provide administrative support to you, for example booking meeting spaces and coordinating events if necessary, but you will need to work closely with your venture to establish a mutually agreeable working schedule.

You should feel free to contact us if you do not think you are being utilised effectively.

Mentor-mentee matching

We will provide you with a background brief on each social venture taking part and endeavour to find the right 'fit' between mentor and venture. With your input we will match up mentors and mentees before the start of the programme according to their needs and interests.

Expectations

We understand Mentors will be expected to:

- Agree a schedule of mentoring activity that best meets the needs of their mentee
- Encourage their mentee to openly discuss their ideas and concerns regarding their business direction and help them set realistic goals
- Refer mentees to other sources of information, advice or further support
- Give feedback on their experience with an entrepreneur as part of our evaluation of The Young Academy programme

About the Young Foundation Ventures Team

The Young Foundation Venture Team provides support and finance to social ventures currently under served by traditional private and public sector funding routes. We also work with organisations that are looking to support and/or fund social ventures to help them understand the social investment market and maximise their impact. In this sense we act as a Social Venture Intermediary (SVI) or Social Investment Finance Intermediary (SIFI).

We are focused on identifying, assisting and investing in high potential ventures that change people's lives for the better. Our aim is to bring about positive social change in the areas of:

Health and wellbeing
Education, training and employment
Community cohesion and housing

The Venture team works closely with the Research and Applied Innovation teams at the Young Foundation to access the latest thinking on achieving and measuring social impact to inform our investment decisions. The market leading work carried out by our colleagues provides a rich pipeline of social innovation ideas from which we can select the most promising concepts for social enterprise.

Contact us for a chat:

If you are interested in becoming a mentor please contact please call Greg Winfield greg.winfield@youngfoundation.org or call on **0208 980 6263**