

Professional Liaison Network Postgraduate Mentoring Case Study - Hannah Manwell, MSc Psychology of Education

Why did you take part in the mentoring scheme?

Despite my degree being in Psychology of Education, I chose my mentor with a background in counselling psychology rather than educational psychology because this is something that has interested me following my optional unit in counselling learners with social, emotional and mental health needs. I wanted to gain insight into how my mentor ended up in this profession/what steps she took to achieve her goal; prior to the scheme, I really had no idea what my next step after university was going to be.

How did the mentoring scheme benefit you?

The scheme benefitted me by providing insight into what the day-to-day life of a counselling psychologist could look like, and what steps need to be taken to get there. The main thing that was reiterated by my mentor was that gaining experience is really crucial should I wish to pursue this career in the future. Additionally, it was also nice to be able to get to know the other students in my group; it was interesting to hear their own experiences and goals.

Would you recommend other students take part in the Mentoring Scheme?

Yes, I would encourage other students to take part in the Mentoring Scheme because it is beneficial to understand the different trajectories that are available in the field of psychology. It is also a good opportunity to get to know other students who might open your eyes to ideas that you yourself had not even thought of.

Why should students engage with the PLN whilst they are studying?

I think that it is sometimes easy to get swept along with the theoretical aspects of the course. The PLN encourages you to consider the end goal of where this learning can take you. It encourages thinking beyond lectures, to how your degree can be utilised after university.

