

## Are families involved?

The value of positive and active involvement by parents cannot be overstated and family support and engagement is valued highly by school. The Learning Mentor communicates regularly with families to give updates and receive feedback on their thoughts and can be available at times throughout the week to chat with parents/ carers.

## Will I be told if my child is working with the Learning Mentor?

Yes.

If school staff identify children who would benefit from time with the Learning Mentor, they will discuss this with parents first. However, if you as a parent or carer have concerns you can speak to the Learning Mentor directly.

## Contact Information

Please feel free to come and chat with me if you have any more questions. I will be on the playground each morning (except Wednesdays) when the bell goes or can be contacted via the school office on 01244 981122.

Mrs Laura Etheridge



**CHERRY GROVE  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**"Caring, learning and achieving together"**



# THE ROLE OF THE LEARNING MENTOR AT CHERRY GROVE

Visit Us Online: [www.cherrygrove.school-portal.co.uk](http://www.cherrygrove.school-portal.co.uk)

# THE ROLE OF THE LEARNING MENTOR

## What is a Learning Mentor?

The role of a Learning Mentor is to support the needs of children who may be experiencing barriers to learning at school and to help them achieve their full potential. They work alongside pupils, teachers, parents, carers, families, schools and other agencies to ensure children and their families receive the support they need.

They also help children to practise skills that will help them concentrate in the classroom and build positive relationships with children and adults. Additionally, they help children to develop confidence and positive self-esteem, as children learn best when they feel happy about themselves.

## What are barriers to learning?

A barrier to learning is any factor that prevents a child from being in the right frame of mind emotionally, physically or psychologically to engage in their lessons and learn.

*Barriers to learning experienced by children may be:*

- Not achieving expected progress and attainment
- Difficulties over attendance and punctuality
- Difficult relationships with friends
- Social and emotional issues
- Feeling vulnerable
- Low self-confidence
- Worries about transition
- Unstable or difficult family circumstances
- Young carers
- Experiencing loss
- Experiencing financial hardship
- Lack of opportunity to develop talents/interests/aspirations

## How does a Learning Mentor help to address these issues?

A Learning Mentor helps children, their families and teachers to identify particular difficulties the child may be experiencing and seek solutions. They work with children on a 1:1 basis, or in a small group to help address any barriers to learning, set realistic targets for improving the situation and they encourage pupils to fully engage with their learning. The overall aim of this additional support is to raise children's achievement and aspirations.

## At Cherry Grove, the Learning Mentor works with children to improve:

- self esteem and confidence
- social and relationship skills
- study skills
- motivation and resilience
- attendance
- punctuality
- aspiration

## How long might my child work with a Learning Mentor?

This will depend on the individual child and their needs. Intervention will take place until it is felt by the child, parents and teachers that the situation has improved. Help may be given in a variety of ways and could, for example, include year round support by providing a homework club with internet access to support children who find it difficult to complete such tasks.