

Case study 1- Lynn

Lynn is a biomedical student who has volunteered since her first year at Edinburgh Napier University. She has been a programme representative and a student mentor for 3 years to date. Her input as a volunteer includes:

- assisting academics with short courses;
- facilitating short talks to students; training new student mentors;
- sitting on the Student Senate and a school LTA committee;
- assisting with IT courses; checking and reporting on the quality of teaching for HLSS.

Skills developed

People skills

Acting as a mentor allows Lynn to care for and empower others. Her empathy and perceptiveness has grown as she deals with her peers' anxieties. As a class representative Lynn exercises diplomacy and impartiality around issues of quality in academics' teaching.

Professional skills

Due to assisting on short courses Lynn has enhanced her IT and academic skills. These include, giving presentations and public speaking. Searching and analysing data has increased her problem solving skills. She recognises she has gained managerial abilities too.

Personal skills

Lynn's confidence has grown as she passes her learning onto learners and mentees. She is comfortable under pressure and has learned the art of prioritising her volunteering, part jobs (2) and her course work. She is successful, conscientious and persevering, can work well in teams as she trains new groups of mentors. Lynn can put all of this experience on her job applications and CVs along with her biomedical degree.