

# Academic Mentoring Webinars 2024-25

Enhancing mentor knowledge and signposting capability through collaborative training

*Organised by the Inclusive Education Team - Eden Centre, LSE*

Four collaborative 30-minute sessions delivered during Winter Term 2024-25, designed to enhance academic mentors' awareness of Student Support Services and improve signposting proficiency. Each session featured specialist presentations followed by interactive Q&A discussions. Sessions can be accessed via the Eden Centre YouTube channel and the [Academic Mentoring Hub](#).

## Widening Participation

**Sam Bailey, Head of Widening Participation**

Wednesday 5 February 2025, 3.30 - 4.00 pm

5 live attendees

101 YouTube views

The session outlined LSE's efforts to support students from underrepresented backgrounds through outreach, financial aid, and transition support. The presentation included a new programme for contextual offer holders that will provide structured peer networks and tailored resources to improve student experience and outcomes.

## LSE Careers

**Maria Kramer & Lewis Humphrey, LSE Careers**

Wednesday 12 February 2025, 11.00 - 11.30 am

4 live attendees

93 YouTube views

This webinar presented the careers support available to students, including one-to-one guidance, sector-specific events, and digital tools. It addressed common student anxieties, clarified recruitment timelines, and highlighted inclusive programmes for underrepresented groups.

## Disability and Mental Health Services

**Kirsty Mackenzie & Mariam Kelekun, DMHS**

Wednesday 26 February 2025, 3.30 - 4.00 pm

5 live attendees

16 YouTube views

The session explained the structure of LSE's disability and mental health services, the legal framework for reasonable adjustments, and how support is tailored to individual needs. It also addressed evolving practices around evidence requirements and inclusive learning.

## LSE Life

**Sarah Taylor, Learning Developer**

Wednesday 5 March 2025, 12.30 - 1.00 pm

5 live attendees

89 YouTube views

This presentation covered the academic and personal development support offered by LSE Life, including one-to-one advice, workshops, peer mentoring, and online resources. New initiatives aim to improve student engagement and access to opportunities.

## Expected Strategic Impact

**Enhanced Student Access:** Better-informed mentors make more effective referrals to specialist support services, reducing barriers to help-seeking

**Institutional Capacity Building:** Strengthens LSE's support ecosystem through improved knowledge transfer and cross-divisional collaboration

**Inclusive Education Commitment:** Ensures all students, particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds, receive timely and appropriate support

**Mentor Confidence:** Provides mentors with authoritative information about service boundaries and referral processes

## Webinar Delivery Insights

**Engagement Pattern:** 14:1 ratio of asynchronous to live engagement demonstrates value of flexible, on-demand professional development

**Quality over Quantity:** Smaller live groups (5 attendees average) facilitated deeper, more interactive discussions and substantive Q&A sessions

**Format Considerations:** 30-minute sessions felt constrained; 45 minutes recommended for comprehensive coverage and extended discussions

**Hybrid Model Success:** 288 total YouTube views indicate substantial reach through recorded content for asynchronous access