

# Ex-Service Personnel Mentoring in Schools

## Abby Noonan

A mentor in Wellfield High



I joined the Army at the age of seventeen commencing my career as a Royal Military Police Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO). I was part of a team responsible for the day to day running of a busy police station. Most of my military service was in Germany but I have also served in UK and as part of a Multi-National Military Police Force in Kosovo where I worked closely with police officers from Germany, Sweden, Finland, Norway and America. After 8 years I identified a desire in myself to provide something more and I took the opportunity to work as an Army Welfare Worker. My role was to provide practical and emotional support to the military community including serving soldiers, civilian employees and their families.

**"I am passionate about empowering people to seek out the very best opportunities available."**

I have always sought out new opportunities and challenges to develop personally and professionally. I have worked voluntarily as a positive parenting group facilitator for military families who wanted to share parenting experiences and learn new skills. I have also worked voluntarily in varying youth settings in schools and in the community and have been fortunate enough to accompany one youth group on a skiing and snowboarding trip to Austria. I have recently completed six years of study with the Open University attaining a BSc Honours Degree – Criminology with Psychological Studies. My experiences working with families has repeatedly demonstrated to me how, with the right approach and professional support, even the smallest of changes can make a significant difference and improve lives. I am passionate about empowering people to seek out the very best opportunities available.