

# Using the GROW Coaching Model with Students

## Process with Sample Questions

### GOAL

**Identify an overall objective** (eg. To become a successful journalist)

*Use open, non-directive questions to allow student to identify own goal*

*Once agreed: "If that is your goal, what do you need to do now?"*

*Then discuss the best use of time allocated for coaching:*

*"How do you want to use your time today?"*

*"What would be the most helpful thing we could talk about?"*

*"What do you want to have achieved before leaving here?"*

### REALITY

**Help student to see their situation from a different perspective**

*Use open, non-directive questions to allow student to explore "current reality"*

*Listen attentively, highlight and encourage positives, challenge negative self talk*

*"What is happening now?"*

*"How would others see this situation?"*

*"What particular skills or attributes do you have now?"*

*"What do you enjoy doing?"*

### OPTIONS

**Encourage students to be creative and explore a large number of options**

*Take a non-directive approach (i.e. do not offer advice or suggestions)*

*Believe in the ability of the student to generate their own options*

*"What could you do?"*

*"What else?"*

*"If you could do anything, what would you do?"*

*"What would someone you really admire do if they were in your situation?"*

### WAY FORWARD

**Evaluate the options and prepare a plan of action**

*Ensure that the student leaves with one achievable task to undertake*

*"Of all of these options, which is the one you want to pursue?"*

*"What is the first step you need to take?"*

*"What is the percentage chance of succeeding?"*

*"What do you need to do to significantly raise that percentage?"*

*"What will happen if you achieve your goals?"*

*"What outcome would make you proud?"*

**Agree a follow-up coaching session to celebrate progress.**

**Apply the GROW coaching model at the next session.**

For more information about the GROW coaching model, see:  
Whitmore, J. (2007). *Coaching for Performance*. London: Nicholas Brealey.