



Mentoring

What is mentoring?

Mentoring brings young people into contact with supportive adults other than a parent or teacher. Through the development of a structured and trusting relationship, a mentor acts as a role model, offering guidance, support and encouragement. A mentor is usually someone who has more skills, experiences and knowledge, and who, by example and sharing their own story, can positively influence the young people with whom they come into contact.

Benefits of mentoring

Mentoring that can take place as part of the project partnerships may result in many benefits:

- *For Young People:* Through contact with an Ambassador, young people can see and understand the practical application of Asia-related knowledge, skills and understanding. They can gain new insights into potential career paths and be inspired to carefully consider their subject selection and/ or pursue new interests;
- *For Ambassadors:* By volunteering to take part in the project, Ambassadors can be satisfied that they are making a difference in the lives of young people, sowing seeds for Australia's future. Partnership activities may also enable them to develop new interpersonal and communication skills;
- *For Schools:* Schools can benefit from building relationships with their Ambassador and associated organisations. Schools will be encouraged to forge purposeful connections with business that enable development of targeted curriculum offerings and outcomes for students; and
- *For Business:* By encouraging staff to become Ambassadors, individual organizations give their employees an opportunity to help young people and feel good about it. Businesses benefit through the additional skills their employees develop through mentoring and the opportunity to increase their profile in the community.

Find out more about mentoring

The Australian Youth Mentoring Network

<http://youthmentoring.org.au/index.php>

The Australian Youth Mentoring Network is a national hub for youth mentoring research, tools and resources.

Office for Youth

<http://www.youth.vic.gov.au/mentoring>

The Victorian Government Office for Youth provides resources, guidelines and good practice tools available for use by all organisations involved in mentoring activities.

<http://educationnorthwest.org/resource/647>

Resources developed for schools and their community partners to design and implement effective mentoring services.