



Issues in the Mentor/Mentee Relationship

Below is an outline of some of the important aspects of your role as a mentor at The Lab.

- Be yourself! Have fun!
- Recognise the capacity of your mentee and have realistic expectations.
- Be patient and allow trust to build in its own time.
- Identify the mentee's interests and take them seriously.
- Listen carefully without passing judgments. Present options, points of view and solutions that you can develop together or the mentee can pursue individually.
- Look for opportunities to provide teaching moments.
- Explore positive and negative consequences.
- Encourage engagement in the Lab, vocational activities and personal /social development.
- Be supportive of the parent's position.
- Respect the confidentiality of any information provided by a mentee.
- Respect the Intellectual Property relating to any ideas developed by the mentee or the group.
- Recognise that your role as mentor is not as a teacher, parent, disciplinarian or therapist. Contact the organiser if you encounter significant behavioural or emotional problems that are impacting engagement. You are a trusted friend who has a shared interest in technology.
- Where any issues involving awareness of child safety, physical or emotional abuse occurs, you must contact the organiser immediately.
- Avoid reference to materials above PG classification.
- Model professional behaviour with consistency, competence and calmness.
- Never use inappropriate language or reference drugs or alcohol.

Attributes of a Good Mentor

- Caring
- Good listener
- Stable
- Can provide leadership
- Reliable (e.g., shows up on time)
- Committed
- Nonjudgmental
- Discreet (will keep information confidential)
- Patient
- Does not attempt to replace parent or guardian