

# Mentorship

The Mentorship Program, launched in 2009-10, connects Grade 11 students with adults (or mentors) from the broader community. Mentors serve as a guides, resources, and contacts to the student during a work experience scheduled at the same time as the Learning and Service Trip for English & Perspectives Block.

## When?

This year, students NOT in English and Perspectives Block in first semester will complete their Mentorship Placement from Wed., Oct. 8 to Fri., Oct. 10 (Grade 11 classes will not run on these three days).

Students in English and Perspectives Block in first semester will complete their Mentorship Placement from Wed., Mar. 25 to Fri., Mar. 27 (to be confirmed) (Grade 11 classes will not run on these three days).

## Why?

Mentorship offers students a chance to reflect on the role of work in their lives and in society by learning about a job or career in an intimate and experiential manner. It provides opportunities to make significant connections in the work world. Generally, students have found their mentors to be positive and helpful.

## What to look for in a mentor?

- Someone in a career, volunteer, hobby, or area of interest that the student would like to learn more about. It can be very broad, or very specific, depending on how confident students are about their interests or future plans.
- Someone who will, at minimum, commit to being interviewed by the student and then be willing and able to interact with the student for three to five days/times (usually 15-18 hours minimum) in a Mentorship Placement (i.e., a job-shadowing or work experience) during the designated times, if possible.
- Ideally someone who is a Christian or shares Christian values, though this is not a prerequisite.
- Many students find mentorship opportunities through family friends, teachers, employers, and youth pastors. Parents and guardians are encouraged to help connect students with people they believe will be a good fit.

## What needs to be done by students in preparation for their mentorship placement:

- Discuss the assignment with family, homestay guardians, teachers, pastors, and/or leaders
- Work to connect with a mentor
- Secure transportation, insurance, and police checks, if needed

Grades for mentorship will be applied to courses in the semester of the placement: 3% per course. Grades include a presentation of the Mentorship experience. Note: Presentations usually last approximately five to seven minutes and are done for a class. Often experiences are profound and presentations so well done that some students present them to other classes or at a school event.

## Who oversees Mentorship?

Mr. VanEerden is in charge of Mentorship and will provide students with all the details for them to know how to be successful. Questions about the Mentorship Program?

E-mail [vaneerden@tdchristian.ca](mailto:vaneerden@tdchristian.ca) at any time.

**Many parents, guardians, and alumni serve as mentors. We desire mentors from all walks of life. If you wish to be considered as a mentor, please send an email to [vaneerden@tdchristian.ca](mailto:vaneerden@tdchristian.ca). For your participation in this program, you will qualify for up to 18 hours of volunteer time**