

# DECD e-Mentoring

Since 2011 Flinders University Inspire Program has partnered with Department for Education and Child Development to develop the DECD e-Mentoring Program.

The program provides consistent online mentoring opportunities for remote and regional students in years 5-12 from low SES and Indigenous backgrounds.

Mentoring sessions are conducted weekly (approx. 1 hour) via Centra, a virtual classroom which is a safe, secure and monitored online environment.

The DECD e-Mentoring program aims:

- To raise student's aspirations for the future by developing skills and knowledge to build their capacity to succeed in current and future education situations.
- To support program participants to develop positive, respectful and sustainable relationships that enhance wellbeing, self-esteem, social and communication skills.

The program harnesses the energy, expertise and commitment of mentors to allow students to benefit from their guidance, support and experience.

Mentors are matched to students based on common interests like hobbies, sports or career paths. They are volunteers who undergo a rigorous training and selection process and must meet DECD standards for volunteering in schools. Mentor screening is conducted by program staff and includes National Criminal History Clearance, RAN training and referee checks.

For more information, contact

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e-Mentoring Program Manager

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e-Mentoring is highly rewarding for both students and mentors.

## From Students:

*(based on 2014 student data)*

**"He has made me more confident in my decisions."**

- 93% felt better about themselves after working with their mentor
- 94% were motivated by their mentor
- 100% were glad they had a mentor and would recommend the program to other students
- 100% said they trusted and respected their mentor and felt their mentor listened to them

## From Mentors:

*(based on 2014 mentor feedback)*

**"I feel appreciated by the e-mentoring team and that I have a purpose to my week that benefits someone else."**

**"It's been a rewarding and a valuable way to gain experience."**

- 96% felt they had a good connection with their mentee
- 100% said involvement improved their wellbeing
- 84% would like to continue next year
- 100% felt they were well matched to mentee and enjoyed being a mentor
- 100% would recommend the program to other mentors

If you are interested in becoming a DECD e-mentor, register online:

**[www.communitymentoring.net.au](http://www.communitymentoring.net.au)**

When registering you will be required to provide details of two referees and asked for an up-to-date Criminal History Check. If you are yet to apply for a NCHC we can support you with this process and cover cost of your clearance.