

Culture Connect

Mentee's Quick Guide

As a mentee, you will be helped to settle into university life by a more experienced student.

By experienced, we are referring to the amount of time they have studied at Sheffield Hallam. They may have more or less experience than you in other areas of life.

Your mentor will sign-post you to university services and extracurricular activities, depending on what you want to achieve. They will provide you with support and encouragement. As mentoring is a two-way learning relationship, your mentor will also learn from you.

Tips

- You can develop a good mentoring relationship if you are aware and accepting of your partner's differences
- Understand that people have different cultural rules and behaviours
- Be aware of prejudice and do not judge
- Ask questions to find out what you have in common, this can bring you closer together

Once you have been allocated a mentor, you must attend a networking event where you will

- meet your mentor
- meet the Super Mentor for your mentoring group and the scheme coordinators
- take part in fun ice-breakers and games to get you talking

Mentoring will be face-to-face

- You could meet in a university cafe, classroom or any public venue of your choice
- You will meet each other for 1 – 2 hours each time
- You must have one meeting per month
- You will negotiate the days, times and locations with your mentor

Potential conversation topics

- any ambitions and difficulties as a student
- adjusting to living/studying in a new environment
- university services and procedures
- extracurricular activities on campus
- meeting people from different countries
- improving cross-cultural communication skills
- navigating Sheffield and transport methods
- hobby groups in the city
- home culture e.g. food, climate and dress
- how to recognise and adjust to cultural differences
- and much more!

Mentee responsibilities

- You decide what to talk about
- Think about what you want to achieve
- Discuss your worries
- Openly discuss your ideas
- Ask questions
- Share your culture

Your mentor will help you find answers but will not tell you what to do.

You will receive a full mentee guide (electronically) to help you prepare for each mentoring session, so that conversations have a focus. You can write notes and record important themes from the conversation.

During your time as a mentee, if you have any concerns, you can email your Super Mentor who will be able to help you or refer the matter to the scheme coordinators.