

# Culture Connect

## Mentor's Quick Guide

### **As a mentor, you will help up to three new students settle into university life.**

You will sign-post them to university services and extracurricular activities, depending on what they want to achieve. You will provide them with support and encouragement.

Your mentee(s) may have more or less experience than you in other areas of life. As mentoring is a two-way learning relationship, you will also learn from them.

#### **Tips**

- You can develop a good mentoring relationship if you are aware and accepting of your 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

You must attend a networking event where you will

- meet your mentee(s)
- 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 mentee(s)

### **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!

#### **Mentor responsibilities**

- Your mentee(s) will decide what to talk about
- Help them to think about what they want to achieve
- Ask them about their worries
- Encourage them to openly discuss their ideas
- Ask questions
- Share your culture and experience

As their mentor, you will help them to find answers but you will not tell them what to do.

You will receive a full mentor 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 mentor, 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.