

Mentorship Program



Last Updated: January 11, 2022

By Mr. Van Eerden

Hi everyone, in light of the recent situation with businesses and schools being closed, we have decided to extend the deadline for the Mentorship presentations and completion until April 1st. If you have already completed it, please make notes for yourself so that it is still fresh in your mind when you present. If you have made arrangements and those arrangements are still viable, whether in person or by Zoom, I encourage you to follow through with those arrangements and complete the placement.

Thank you all for your hard work, and we will continue in hope that things will be much clearer in a month's time. If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Thanks again,

Mr. Van Eerden

The Grade 11 Mentorship Program gives students the opportunity to explore in depth a career that might interest them. After exposure to the workplace environment, many students have a clearer picture of what they would like to do after high school.

In the first semester, students should work with their families, their homestays, or their guardians to find a placement where they can work for 15 to 18 hours. Although students can do their mentorship whenever it is convenient for them and their mentor, the official time to do it is during the break between semesters.

During the week of February 11, students will be asked to do a presentation about their experience in one of their second semester Grade 11 courses. At that time, their Experience Journal as well as the Mentorship Confirmation form will be due.

For more information or if you are interested in being a mentor (for which we offer up to 18 volunteer hours), contact Mr. Van Eerden at vaneerden@tdchristian.ca or check out the documents in the Edsby group called Grade 11 Mentorship.

Grade 11 Mentorship @ TDChristian, 2021-22

The Mentorship Program was launched in 2009-10 and is designed to connect each Grade 11 student with an adult (or mentor) from the broader community. The mentor will serve as a guide, resource, and contact to the student during a work experience scheduled at a yet-to-be-determined time.

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 individuals. *Given the pandemic, mentorship may take on different form(s), possibly virtually or via Zoom though our intention is for students to complete this between first and second semester.*

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 (15-18 hours in total) in a Mentorship Placement (i.e. a job-shadowing or work experience) during a yet-to-be-determined time.
- Ideally someone who is a Christian or shares Christian values, though this is not a prerequisite.

What needs to be done by students for their mentorship:

Grades for the following currently-planned assignments will be applied to a **Semester 2, Grade 11 course (3%)**:

- An Experience Journal detailing your day to day activities as well as some learning related to the career your mentor is in.
- Mentorship Placement Completion Form – filled out by the mentor and submitted by the student
- A presentation of the Mentorship experience (Note: Presentations usually last approximately five to seven minutes and are done for a class. Often experiences are so profound and presentations so well done that some students present them to other classes or at a school event).

How to find a mentorship placement:

Each student in Grade 11 needs to find a mentor and complete the mentorship placement. 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.

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. For your participation in this program, you will qualify for up to 18 hours of volunteer time.

Questions about the Mentorship Program? Please e-mail vaneerden@tdchristian.ca.