

Mentorship Program



Last Updated: April 12, 2022

By Mr. Van Eerden

Most of the Mentorship Presentations have been completed. We have seen many wonderful presentations, and it has been great to see students' interests and passions presented in a new way. Thank you, students, parents, and volunteers, for making this important learning opportunity possible. Students, please thank your mentors for their work. If you are still finishing up final details and taking care of paperwork, please finish this up as soon as possible by connecting with Mr. Van Eerden. If you are a parent who volunteered as a mentor, we will count your volunteer hours if they have been marked on the completion form. If not, please contact Mr. Van Eerden.

With the exception of those in Internship Block, all Grade 11 students are gearing up for their Mentorship Presentations, which will take place next week, April 4th to the 8th, in all Grade 11 classes. When the students do their presentations, they should also hand in a Mentorship Completion Form and their Experience Journal. Remember, all documentation can be found in the Grade 11 Mentorship group on Edsby. These three items combined are weighted as 3% of the final grade in all Grade 11 classes. Teachers should be connecting with the students who will be presenting in their classes this week and setting up a plan. If you have questions or difficulties, please connect with Mr. Van Eerden.

Our Mentorship deadline is quickly approaching. If you are still looking to complete the 15 to 18 hours on work-related experience needed, please use a part of the upcoming March Break to do so. During the week of April 4th through the 8th, all Grade 11 students will be required to make a short 3 to 5 minute presentation in one of their current Grade 11 classes. If you are looking for more information, please look in the Edsby group called Grade 11 Mentorship or contact Mr. Van Eerden.

Currently, the plan for Mentorship is that all Grade 11 Students will present their Mentorship experience in one of their second semester Grade 11 classes during the week of April 4th to the 8th. Please do look at the requirements, which are posted in the Grade 11 Mentorship Group, so that while you are there you remember to take a picture or two and you remember to find a prop you can use for your presentation.

In order to make this experience accessible to all, we are working with a policy of flexibility for how, where, and with whom you complete your Mentorship. If you have any questions, please connect with Mr. Van Eerden.

Now is a perfect time to complete your mentorship placement, if it is safe and possible to work with your mentor. But if that is not yet possible for you or your mentor, please be reminded that the whole project isn't due until April 1st.

If you are interested in earning up to 18 volunteer hours by being a mentor to one of our students, please contact Mr. Van Eerden, and I will work to connect one with a potential mentee.

Again, I appreciate your work on this, and if you do have any questions, please contact me directly (vaneerden@tdchristian.ca).

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.