

Information for Mentors

Thank you for volunteering to become a mentor; you will probably remember your first days at University clearly, and so know what the new students this year are going through. You've lived through them, and so by now you will have plenty of helpful information to offer Freshers both about their courses and about what Warwick has to offer more broadly. There are a few points to bear in mind, and the following few points should give you an idea of what being a mentor is about:

- It's important to remember that your mentee may have different interests to you, so keep that in mind when setting up your meeting places. It's often best to choose 'more' neutral places, like coffee bars, rather than a bar or a pub. You'll quickly find out what kind of a person your mentee is, but for the first meeting at least, it's best to make sure that your mentee feels as comfortable as possible.
- As a mentor, you will mostly likely be asked about their degree, social aspects of the University, Clubs and Societies, and general questions about dealing with and understanding a lot of what goes on at Warwick. You may find that after the first term your mentee has settled in comfortably and needs progressively less advice. However, it is still important to keep channels of communication open, because different academic terms have different problems – so you never know when you might be needed!
- As a student you will probably have plenty of things going on in your life – **if necessary**, make sure that your mentee is aware that you do have other commitments. You have volunteered to be a mentor and that involves many things, but being a Personal Tutor, social worker, or source of academic 'freebies' is not one of them. Your mentee will receive guidelines on what kind of information to expect, but be firm and please stick to the guidelines. If any serious concerns do arise, if appropriate, please consult with your mentees' Personal Tutor, or the member of staff/society i.e. the internal affairs officer.
- If, for whatever reason, you decide that you would no longer like to be part of the scheme, please let the internal affairs officer know. This way, your mentees can be re-assigned to someone else, and can receive further support if they need it. Alternatively, if you find that your mentees don't need you at all, there are other students who do, so again, let one of the Internal Affairs Officer know so you can be re-paired.

Finally, a big thank you for volunteering to help. It's important to note, although you are the one providing support, many mentors find the system hugely rewarding and take great pleasure from being involved. If you do have

any queries, please do not hesitate to get contact me at
internalaffairs@warwicklawsociety.com

Best Wishes,
Chris Tanoh