

## **Mentor information**

Becoming a Mentor gives you the opportunity to develop new skills, as well as gaining the satisfaction of supporting someone pursuing an environmental science career. Volunteering as a Mentor provides the opportunity to give something back to the sector and to contribute to your annual CPD targets.

## Who can become a Mentor?

IES Mentors are Full Members or Fellows. You do not have to be at the very top of your profession to be a Mentor; as an environmental professional at these grades you have sufficient work experience to be able to provide advice and support to someone seeking work in your field.

## What to expect:

Mentors are all volunteers and so the IES is committed to ensuring that the demands on Mentors are not too high. Mentors can therefore expect that the partnership will be:

- Mentee-driven: Mentees are expected to take the initiative in making contact and taking
  action as a result of your input. Being aware that environmental professionals are busy
  people, you will only be paired up with one mentee (unless you feel particularly enthusiastic
  about the scheme!)
- **Supported**: the IES Project Office will provide training materials to assist you in developing the partnership. No prior experience of mentoring is required. The IES provides on-line support materials to assist you. If you have any problems at any time, the IES Project Office is there to support you. You will be asked for feedback every two months throughout the partnership to ensure that all is going smoothly.
- **Comfortable**: Mentors should be comfortable with how the partnership is established. Therefore Mentors will be able to choose which level of initial contact they are happy with:
  - o Email through the IES office (no contact details exchanged);
  - o Direct email;
  - o Telephone
- **Time commitments:** The IES project office ensures that Mentees are aware of the time restraints on Mentors. As long as Mentors are explicit with their Mentees about their commitments and the input they are able to offer, the mentoring scheme can easily fit into a mentor's schedule.

Mentoring is not teaching or a counselling session. Mentors are there to provide support and guidance, but are not expected to solve all problems.

If you would like to become a Mentor, please complete the Mentor Profile Form.



## **Mentoring Scheme Procedure:**

