



## Mentor Expectations and Confidentiality

Specific guidelines exist for matches to ensure the safety of both mentor and mentee. Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in early termination of the match. Remember, these guidelines are not meant to hamper your ability to develop a relationship with your mentee. Rather, they serve to protect you, the program, and most importantly, the mentee. Please refer to the mentor training manual for more information concerning your role as a mentor.

As a mentor in the Bowdoin College Bridge to Kids Mentoring Programs initiative, I agree to:

- Make a one-year commitment to mentoring, during which I will meet with my mentee once a week for at least an hour while Bowdoin College classes are in session.
- Attend a training session.
- Abide by the specific program guidelines relating to times and locations mentoring occurs, as well as abide by all site protocols. For school-based programs, this often means staying within school property.
- Notify the school contact and/or the appropriate program leaders if I cannot make a scheduled meeting with my mentee.
- Remember to keep discussions confidential unless I suspect the child's safety is at risk or I suspect child abuse (see page two).
- Engage in the relationship with an open mind.
- Maintain open communication with program coordinators to discuss mentor–student activities and obtain feedback and suggestions for maintaining the mentor–student relationship, as well as discuss any problems or concerns that might arise.
- Refrain from contacting or seeing my mentee outside of the established parameters and supervised sites where the program takes place.
- Always feel free to ask about things I do not understand.

*Confidentiality statement and certification on back!*



## Confidentiality

As a mentor, all the information you are told about your student is confidential and sharing that information with others is prohibited. There may be times when you feel you need support in dealing with things your mentee shares with you. Nevertheless, you must not talk things over with your family or friends. Instead, contact the mentoring coordinator or site representative; they are trained to help you deal with sensitive issues.

Tell your student that he/she is free to share confidential information with you but that you are required to report certain things. It is critical, not only for the welfare of the student, but also to protect yourself, that you adhere to the guidelines set out in the mentor training manual with regard to mandatory reporting.

**If a student confides that he or she is the victim of sexual, emotional or physical abuse, or tells you of his/her involvement in any illegal activity you *must* notify the site coordinator immediately.**

Note on your calendar when this information was reported and to whom it was given. Remember this information is extremely personal and capable of damaging lives, so *do not* share it with anyone except the appropriate authorities.

## Agreement

These expectations are designed to ensure both you and your mentee get the most out of your relationship as well as protecting the mentee from harm. Please know that we value your participation in the mentoring program and that we appreciate your adherence to these expectations and confidentiality policies. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Horstkotte at [jhorstko@bowdoin.edu](mailto:jhorstko@bowdoin.edu) or 207-798-4236.

**As a “mentor” I have read, understood, and agree to the above information. If I, in any way, violate this confidentiality policy or the stated expectations, I understand that I will no longer be eligible to be part of the program and my involvement will be immediately terminated.**

Mentor Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_