Mission Statement

To empower young women and build meaningful connections between mentors and mentees.

Objectives

- Mentors and students develop strong bonds
- Students feel supported socially and emotionally
- Students develop a sense of freedom and independence
- Students develop new skills

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Program Background

The Linked-In Mentoring Program is a school based mentoring initiative run in partnership between Inner West Council and Sydney Secondary College (Leichhardt and Balmain).

Selection Process

The mentors are volunteers who live, work or have an interest in the Inner West Local Government area. They are passionate or have experience with young people. Applicants need to undergo a thorough recruitment process, which includes submitting an application form, being interviewed, reference checks, and a Working With Children Check Clearance before being selected. Successful applicants then participate in a training course that covers topics on mentoring and effective methods to engage with young people.

Testimonials

“I have definitely learnt many skills from the Linked-In Mentoring Program which will be very useful later in life” - Mentee

“It was fun and I’m sad it is over. I wish it was longer” – Mentee

“I felt included and valued being in this program. I felt I was able to pass on knowledge and at times stand back and listen and observe” – Mentor

“I felt really good to be part of the program. I felt that I was helping the girls learn new things in general but also about themselves” - Mentor

Mentees

Students are year 8 girls who have been nominated by their teachers to participate in the program. These girls are identified as having untapped potential, and would benefit in an environment with a group of adult role models.

Program Outline

This program is designed to empower young women with a sense of awareness of their broader community, tap into their leadership skills, and encourage community participation and to nurture their creativity.

The program involves a series of activities where young people are accompanied by volunteer mentors. These activities include yoga, physical theatre, and filmmaking. The program runs from term 2 to term 4. Activities take place Tuesday starting 1pm. Activity locations will vary from week to week.