



*Making an **Impact!***

Virtual Mentoring Session Questions & Answers

Q: Do you have any tips on how to handle a student that might not have an adequate attention span?

A: Make your time with them short, the session does not have to last a full 30 minutes. It is just important to let them know that you are present and care.

Q: I am concerned about not having a personal connection with my student if we are only able to connect remotely.

A: Adults perceive things differently than kids do. Children are likely to just be excited and happy to have someone that is taking the time to reach out to them.

Q: My student and I bonded through play. We played a lot of games like Uno, checkers, making slime, crafting and playing basketball. My student opens up through play. It helps to get their guard down. How do we achieve that via a video call?

A: There are several activity ideas listed on the [Weekly Activities Topics](#) to help with this. You could send a care package to your student (through the school) including items like PlayDoh, Uno, crayons, paper, coloring books, stickers, playing cards, etc. that would enable you to engage in activities together.

Q: How do we ensure proper boundaries and precautions are set so that the child is not able to contact me outside of the allotted date and time?

A: Communication regarding scheduling will go through the School Family & Community Liaison. No personal information will be provided.

Q: How can I connect with my student while I am in my work environment like I would when we meet in person?

A: Just be yourself. Designate a spot that is free of distractions (no other people around, no visual distractions from your workplace, etc.) The activity suggestions and weekly ideas will help you connect.

Q: How would my student be able to confide in me if he/she is in her home where other adults could overhear what he/she says?

A: This can be difficult. Please ask the liaison at the school to make sure the online students have privacy at home when meeting with their mentor. If your student were to confide something in you that you are alarmed by, be sure to report it to the liaisons immediately.

Q: How do we handle distractions that students may have going on outside of our call?
A: Encourage your student to designate a special spot to have their call, free of outside distractions, to the extent possible. The School Family & Community Liaison will encourage parents to do the same.

Q: We don't know each other very well yet, and I'm worried we won't have a lot to talk about.

A: There are several activity ideas listed on in the [Weekly Topics and Activities](#) that will help you connect. Be yourself, your student will be happy to have someone taking the time to check in and make them feel important.

Q: My student and I often connected by playing sports. How do we connect virtually?

A: You can talk about sports! Show each other new moves or have a competition to see who can get the most baskets throwing crumpled up paper into a trashcan.

Q: My work computer does not have a camera, and I don't think they have access to a device, how would I meet with my student virtually?

A: Most students, if not all, have access to a school issued device. The priority should just be about checking in with your student, and letting them know that you are there for them. You can also become pen pals. Students would love to receive a personal letter in the mail! Letter writing will enable them to practice their reading and writing skills too. Letters should be mailed to the school care of the Family & Community Liaison.

Q: Can I send letters or packages to my student directly?

A: No. All communication should go through the School Family & Community Liaison. Please mail or drop off any letters or packages at the school.



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