

# FLASH MENTORING

PAY IT FORWARD



DUBLIN  
NORTH EAST  
INNER CITY

This programme is managed by the Career Development and Employability Team  
at National College of Ireland on behalf of the NEIC Programme Implementation Board

## **The NEIC**

*The North East Inner City (NEIC) programme is a social regeneration initiative endorsed by Government involving local communities in the NEIC, businesses and statutory agencies creating opportunities to bring about lasting positive change in the area.*

## **The NEIC Flash Mentoring Programme**

*The NEIC Flash Mentoring programme has been designed to provide students from 6 inner city schools with a series of short, low pressure, one-time meetings with a range of experienced professionals from a variety of backgrounds, careers and industry sectors.*

*Students typically have a knowledge gap—they have limited knowledge about the range of career options that exist. The Flash Mentoring programme aims to bring the local business community into the 6 schools to make students aware of and give them an insight to real career options as they exist in the world around them—options they may not have awareness of or access to within their own network.*

*The programme's aim is to create awareness amongst students of a range of career options and career paths outside their current network with a focus on both widening and raising aspirations together with assisting the students to start the process of building a professional network.*

## **Why...**

### **Participate in the NEIC Flash Mentoring programme**

*Students from challenged socio-economic backgrounds often have strong beliefs that educational attainment and career success is not within their grasp. The insights, guidance and career stories gained from flash mentoring interactions can help to buck typical beliefs, inspiring young students with relatable stories of challenges, obstacles overcome and triumphs. The programme is designed to be high impact without requiring a large commitment from organisations or employee mentors.*

### **Where will the Flash Mentoring programme take place?**

*The global COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our day to day lives and in an effort to ensure that our students continue to have access to a high-quality development programmes, we are launching the NEIC Flash Mentoring programme as an online initiative. Students will be connected to mentors through the school's video call platform (Microsoft Teams, Zoom etc.) during school hours, while on while on campus and supervised.*

## **When...**

### **Does the programme start?**

*The Flash Mentoring programme will launch in October 2020 and we are excited to invite you to participate. The mentors will meet each student once, for 30–40 minutes and it is our hope that each mentor would meet 5–6 students over the course of the academic year. We ask that volunteers are available to commit 30–40 minutes approximately once a month for 5–6 months beginning in October. The programme is managed by the Career Development and Employability Team at National College of Ireland on behalf of the NEIC Programme Implementation Board.*

**For further information or to discuss  
how you can get involved please contact:  
[john.ruigrok@ncirl.ie](mailto:john.ruigrok@ncirl.ie)**

**Who...**

## **Will you have the opportunity to impact?**

*The NEIC Programme specifically works with 6 local DEIS schools to bring opportunities and guidance to local students that typically may not have access to these resources. The DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) plan was launched by the Department of Education in 2005. It is an initiative to tackle educational disadvantage and develop opportunities for young people in communities at risk of disadvantage and social exclusion. The Flash Mentoring Programme will run for Transition Year and Leaving Cert Applied students. The NEIC is currently linked with the following 6 local DEIS secondary schools.*

**Larkin Community College**  
**Mount Carmel Secondary School**  
**O'Connell's Secondary School**  
**Marino College**  
**St. Josephs C.B.S.**  
**Rosmini Secondary School**

**How...**

## **Is the Flash Mentoring programme structured?**

*Mentors and students will meet virtually through a system such as Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Webex etc. The students will be on school premises in a room supervised by a member of the teaching staff.*

*Through prompted questions that will be shared with volunteers before the meetings, students will conduct informational interviews with mentors to learn about their career journey, career highlights, obstacles overcome, personal wins, key skills developed and any unique insights into the challenges and rewards of working life. Students will be tasked with writing reflective pieces on their experiences and what they have learnt from the meetings.*

## ***Child Protection***

*For the purpose of mentoring young people, it is a requirement under the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 & 2016, that mentors are Garda vetted. The schools will vet volunteers directly and we will outline guidelines for the mentoring experience.*

## ***Contact Details***

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