



Chapter Four: Boundaries and confidentiality

This chapter will identify and explain the different boundaries that Mentors have to adhere to.

Do's

- Provide clear ground rules.
- Keep information confidential, unless it will be a risk to the mentee or others.
- Keep your supervisor up to date with your mentoring partnership and performance – keep a small diary to remind you of the sessions and track progress that has been made.
- Keep focused on the needs of the MENTEE.
- Stay professional.
- Keep your own personal information separate.
- Treat all mentoring sessions with confidentiality. A mentee should not even have the slightest concern that they may become a subject of any “gossip”.
- Recognise any rare situations where you have to pass on information, particularly when you feel you do not have the skills or confidence to deal with a certain situation.

Don't

- Become a friend to the mentee (be friendly, but not a friend!)
- Create promises you cannot keep, quality of your sessions is so much more important than the quantity of them!
- Meet up with your mentee at irregular times and always tell someone when you are meeting your mentee.-Challenge in an uncomfortable situation.
- Ever be afraid to seek advice when you are unsure of something, no matter how small the issue may be. As the saying goes, it is better to be safe than sorry!

