

A service provided for families of deaf and hard of hearing children and young people by Deaf Children Australia



What is expected from the family ?

Mentoring is a shared family experience. The family and the mentor would plan activities together and the whole family would participate in the experience. Families would also be involved in the evaluation of the program.

How much does this service cost ?

There is no cost to the family for the Mentoring Program. Deaf Children Australia will pay mentors for their work.

Who can participate ?

This program is open to all deaf and hard of hearing children no matter how they communicate.

What type of communication will the deaf mentor use ?

This will depend on the needs of the child. All mentors have a hearing loss. They may use hearing aids or have a cochlear implant and/or may be able to use Auslan. Deaf Children Australia will aim to find a Deaf mentor who matches the needs of the family.

Who do I contact to ask for this service ?

Contact the Deaf Children Australia Helpline on 1800 645 916 or email info@deafchildren.org.au who will then refer your request to the most appropriate staff member.

For the visually impaired this brochure is available in large print format. Please contact the Helpline to request a copy.

For over 140 years, Deaf Children Australia has been enriching the lives of deaf and hard of hearing children and adults.

We provide information, advocacy, support services and educational resources.

As a not-for-profit organisation, our service is made possible with the support of volunteers, the community, business and government grants.

Deaf Children Australia's Services conform to the Disability Act 2006 (Vic), Information Privacy Act 2000 (Vic), the Privacy Act 1988 (Commonwealth) and the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Commonwealth)

597 St.Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004
PO Box 6466 St.Kilda Road Central
Melbourne 8008
Ph: (03) 9539 5300
TTY: (03) 9510 7143
Fax: (03) 9525 2595
Helpline: 1800 645 916
helpline@deafchildren.org.au
www.deafchildrenaustralia.org.au

STAR Mentoring Program for deaf and hard of hearing children and their families

*success
through
adult
role modelling*



*Alife
to be Jived*

What is the STAR Mentoring Program ?

The STAR Mentoring Program matches a deaf or hard of hearing child and their family with a deaf or hard of hearing adult who visits regularly and provides information on life experiences, skills and strategies.

Aim of the program

The aim of the STAR Program is to:

- have a positive impact on the child's self-esteem and confidence through the provision of positive role models
- improve life-long opportunities for young deaf and hard of hearing children and their families by sharing ideas and experiences

How old must a child be to participate in this program ?

Deaf and hard of hearing children in the family must be between 5 and 12 years of age.

Where must the deaf child live ?

The deaf or hard of hearing child can live anywhere in Victoria or South East Queensland. Our intention is to expand the program nationally, subject to funding. If you would like more information about these opportunities, please contact our Helpline.

Who are the Deaf Mentors ?

Deaf Mentors are deaf or hard of hearing adults who have been deaf from an early age. They have been interviewed and screened and have undertaken a short training course in mentoring provided by Deaf Children Australia.

What will the Deaf Mentor do ?

The Deaf Mentor and the child's family will plan activities in which the whole family can be involved. This could be playing cards, a board game, reading a book together, or baking a cake. The Deaf Mentor will provide information to the family on any topic of interest which is related to the child.

How often will the Deaf Mentor visit ?

The Deaf Mentor will usually visit the family once a week for two hours during school terms for an agreed period, normally 6 to 12 months.

How can the family enter the program ?

The family can enter the STAR Mentoring Program by contacting the **Deaf Children Australia Helpline on 1800 645 916 or email helpline@deafchildren.org.au**

How long will it take before a Mentor can begin visiting the family ?

Following your contact and referral, the coordinator will select a trained mentor, matched to your family's needs.



Expression of Interest Form

Please return this section to Deaf Children Australia if you would like more information on the STAR mentoring program.

Your Name:

Your Address:

Daytime Contact Phone No.:

Email Address:

Mail To:

**STAR Mentoring Program Coordinator
Deaf Children Australia
PO Box 6466
St.Kilda Road Central, Melbourne 8008**

