How do I ensure that mentors and mentees with busy schedules are able to meet?

• Screen both the young person and mentor for their availability and commitment at the beginning of the process.

• Ensure that you communicate that one to one mentoring in your program requires a minimum weekly/fortnightly time commitment and young people and mentors are required to commit to this.

• Allocate initial match meeting times and ask for both to commit to these times. That way the match will get off to the right start.

• Promote the program clearly to local organisations, clubs and businesses and try to negotiate flexibility in the schedules of their staff/members.

• Find out the times the young people attend school and ask the education provider if they can meet with their mentor in school time.

• Allow for phone or online contact as an alternative to face-to-face contact every other week.