



Welcome to Lincoln Connect

University of Lincoln Alumni Ambassador Scheme

Online Mentoring – Lincoln Connect

What is mentoring?

Mentoring is a relationship in which a more experienced or more knowledgeable person helps to guide a less experienced or less knowledgeable person. Successful mentoring relationships should provide both parties with opportunities for growth of knowledge and expertise in their chosen area. The Lincoln Connect platform offers exclusive e-mentoring opportunities for professional contacts and University of Lincoln students and graduates.

Mentoring is not...

- A personal relationship
- Time-intensive
- A recruitment tool for jobseekers and/or job advertisers (though positive mentoring relationships could lead to opportunities in the future)

Why should I become a mentor?

Becoming a mentor can hone communication, leadership and management skills. It is a sought-after attribute which is transferable into your own place of work. This rewarding experience will offer you the chance to inspire new graduates, but also develop your own professional and personal skills-set.

Furthermore, you will:

- Create a partnership with the University
- Build your brand on campus and raise awareness of your graduate opportunities
- Support talented individuals to achieve their goals
- Add an extra specialism to your own CV

- Use new skills within your current role and organisation

How do I become a mentor?

We use a secure, online platform called 'Lincoln Connect' that allows students, graduates and employers to network virtually. The site is easy to sign up to and functions in a very similar way to LinkedIn, the main difference being that all users are associated with The University of Lincoln.

1. Register on the Lincoln Connect platform – www.lincolnconnect.co.uk
2. Ensure you complete your profile making it as comprehensive as possible
3. Set your mentoring preferences – this allows you to have total control over how many people you want to mentor, how much time you can give and what kind of mentoring you want to offer. You can even seek a mentor yourself!
4. Once you have been approved by the site administrators - post in the main page a short (max words 150) introduction to yourself along with a photo. We know that students are reluctant to make the initial connection and feel a bit overwhelmed but are more likely to respond to a post. Note which students you are happy to mentor e.g., computer science, any students interested in working in the criminal justice field etc. The careers team now have the function to manually match mentees with mentors and by ensuring you have listed the types of students you are happy to mentor this will help the matching process.
5. Use the 'chat' function on the site to develop your mentoring relationships – all of the mentoring will take place online via Lincoln Connect. You may invite your mentees to connect on LinkedIn, but we advise you not to give out personal social media information.

What Happens Next?

The Careers Team will also be running a series of webinars for both mentors and mentees to ensure both parties can get the most out of the mentor/mentee relationship. The main contact for support with Lincoln Connect is Becki Cobb, Careers & Employability Advisor. You can contact her on rcobb@lincoln.ac.uk with any queries that you might have.

Thanks for your interest in becoming a mentor.