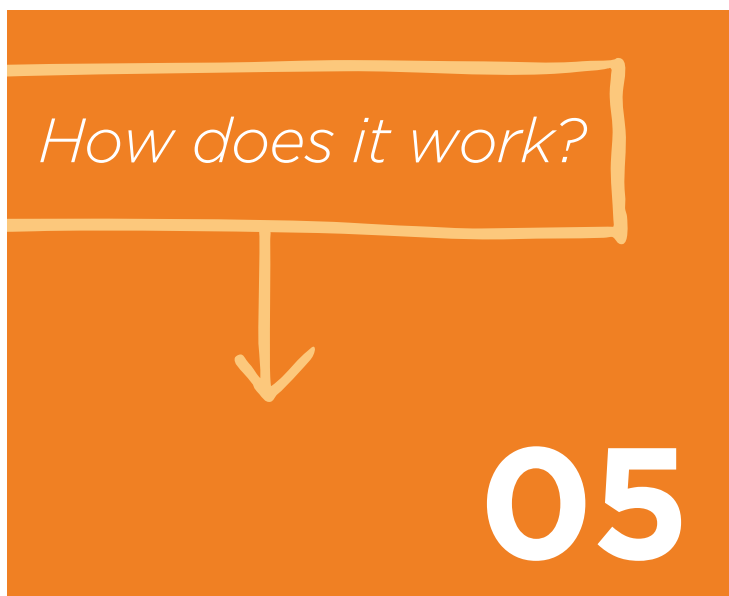


Connections that matter.



connect
e-mentoring programme



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Introducing Connect your e-mentoring platform



Connect is a digital mentoring platform which enables members to become mentors and mentees, and meet physically or virtually, from anywhere in the world, regardless of their career stage.

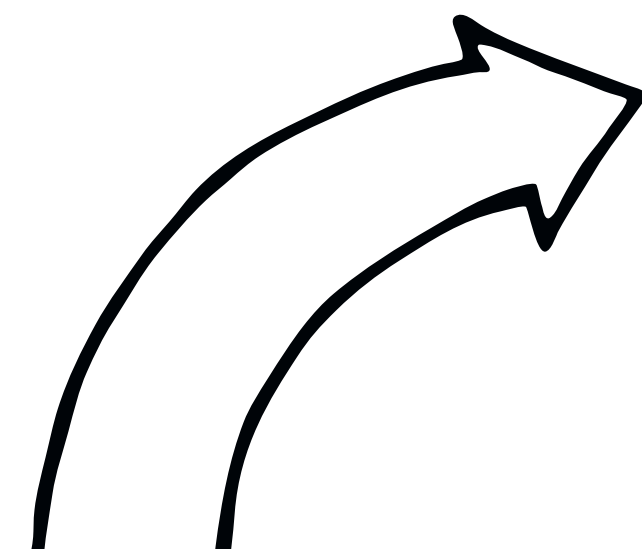
Mentoring your way

Connect gives you the flexibility to decide the best way to establish and progress your mentoring relationship, whether that's meeting in person, having video calls or simply exchanging emails. You choose how you want to interact with one another and what the learning objectives will be.

Mentoring matters

Mentoring has proven to have a significant impact on the success and development of others and provides great opportunity to facilitate personal and professional growth through the sharing of knowledge and experience.

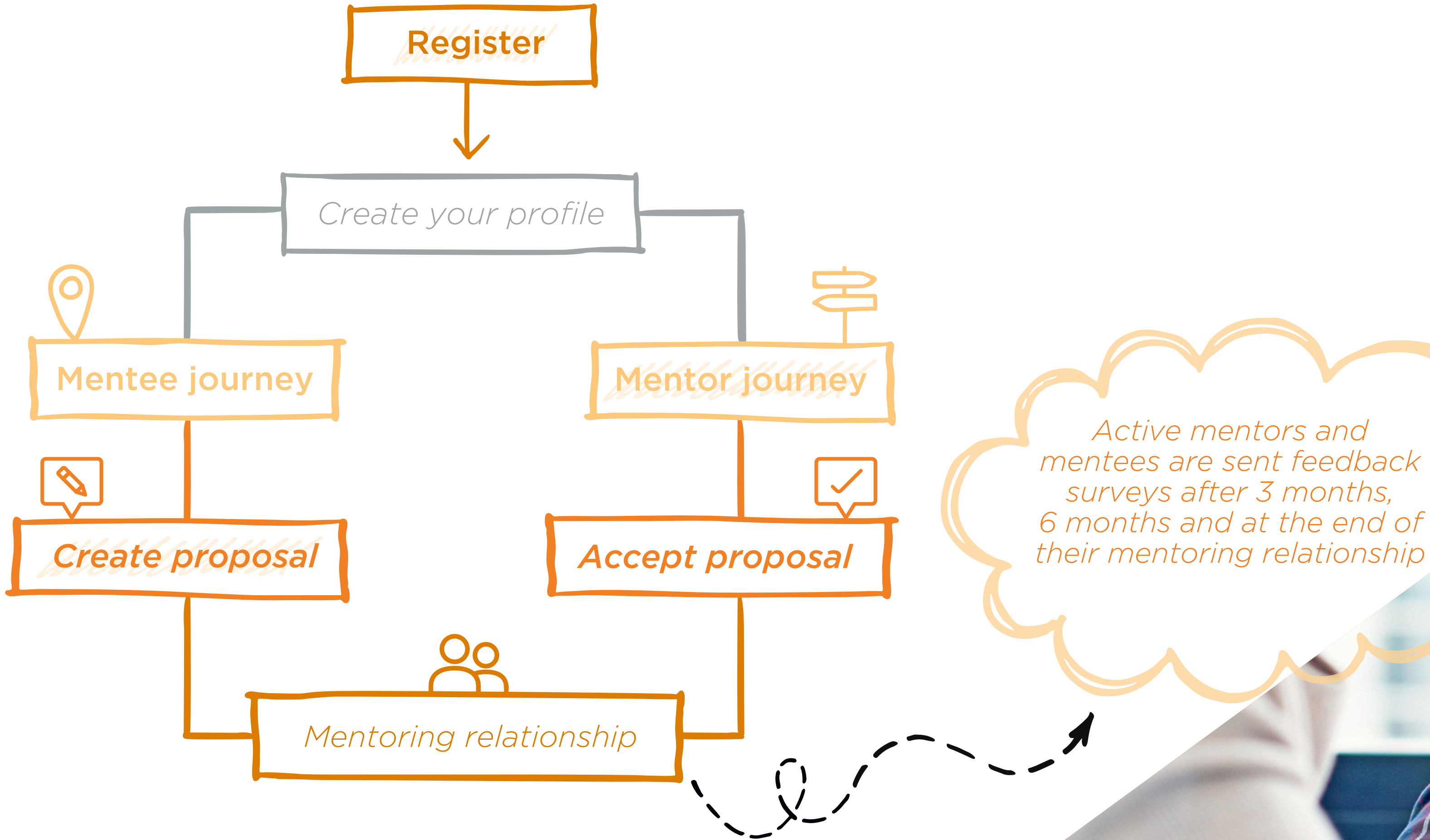
Our “matching” system aligns members in accordance with specific criteria, such as skills, experience and sector. In so doing, Connect will make the most effective use of the broad range of skills and expertise within the profession, regardless of geographic location.





**Be part of
of something
bigger.**

How does it work?



Watch our video...



**Become
a mentor**



**Become
a mentee**



A woman with short dark hair and glasses is sitting at a desk, focused on writing in a notebook with a pen. She is wearing a grey turtleneck sweater. On the desk in front of her is a laptop, a glass of orange juice, and a small potted cactus. The background is a blurred office or home workspace with large windows. The image has a white arrow pointing right in the bottom left corner and a white sunburst icon at the top center. The text 'Challenge yourself.' is overlaid in the top right in a large, white, sans-serif font, with an orange brushstroke effect behind the word 'yourself'.

**Challenge
yourself.**

Become a mentor

Mentoring is a hugely gratifying experience and satisfaction comes from empowering the mentee with positive outcomes. The passing of knowledge is a great way of giving something back to others and encourages social and economic progress.

Providing guidance to up-and-coming professionals and passing on a career's worth of know-how has a number of benefits. It helps to ensure the next generation of advisers learn from the experience of the previous one, can provide a smooth path for succession planning and the handing over of clients in the future, and experienced advisers might even find they learn some new tricks along the way.

As an experienced professional, you will have lots to offer, ultimately not only benefiting the mentee, but the organisation in which they work. You will offer support to enable your mentee to explore their professional situation and work towards their pre-determined goals and objectives.

If you are new to mentoring, we have a range of articles available at smp.org.uk/connect, offering advice on mentoring practice.

Mentoring also supports your own professional development:



"Sometimes you need a sounding board, or an insight from someone who is impartial, but at the same time can see it how it is. Mentees just need encouragement to see through the maze of possibilities. I enjoy mentoring and am always interested in speaking with new mentees."



Become a mentee

There are plenty of times when we could all learn from the skills and experience of someone who has been there before. So where can we turn for experienced advice that we can trust to help us achieve stronger performance? In business, the answer is increasingly mentors.

Whether you are newly qualified, or experienced, or about to embark on a new challenge or role, Connect provides a network of professionals and leaders who are happy to support those looking to develop their own careers, increase performance or solve the challenges associated with their roles.

In this rapidly changing world it is important to be self-aware and plan for your career. Although plans can change and flexibility is a key advantage in the current job market, knowing your strengths and areas where you need improvement and the general direction you would like to take are key elements to success.

If you are new to mentoring, we have a range of articles available at smp.org.uk/connect, offering advice on mentoring practice.



*"60% of UK business leaders have had a mentor, and of these, 97% said they had benefited from the advice given" (*DDI, 2005)*

A mentor can help in several ways:

1. Improve your self-confidence

Your mentor can fuel you with their knowledge and experiences, so you will have the upper hand compared to your peers. Take forward what you learn into your role and look ahead to success.

2. Encourage self-reflection

An external 'pair of eyes' could be what you need to analyse and critically assess your performance or confirm that you are working in the correct way.

5. Develop key skills and capabilities to succeed in a dynamic, global economy

Mentoring not only improves problem-solving skills, but also the ability to stay in business for the longer term.

4. Overcome challenges

A good mentor will inspire, motivate and encourage you to tackle your challenges head on. Their experienced perspective will prove invaluable and help you resolve challenges more quickly.

3. Access support, professional development, guidance and networking opportunities

With access to mentors working across multiple industries and sectors, you can be matched with someone from your own sector and learn best practice. Their network can also introduce you to other valuable connections.



Work smarter.



Testimonials

“The skills I’ve learnt through being a mentor will help me grow my practice, and train and develop new talent”

“Great idea and impressive portal.”

“The experience connecting with my mentor was truly an enjoyable one, I’ve gain a significant level of confidence.”

“I am passionate about helping others to achieve their best.”

“I’ve had such a valuable experience. My mentor has proved to be an extraordinary listener and committed to our mentoring relationship. Our sessions have been very constructive.”

“I love it”



A few of the FAQs

Who is the scheme for?

All members, regardless of their career stage.

Can I take part if I am a retired member?

Yes, we welcome the valuable knowledge and insight of our retired members.

Is the scheme free?

Yes.

How sure can I be that I will be matched?

There is no guarantee you will be matched, but we encourage you to periodically log into Connect as it may take some time to find a mentor or receive a mentoring request.

How is my information used and stored on the mentoring platform?

We collect and store the personal information you enter at registration and when you complete your profile on the mentoring system. We only collect personal information that is necessary for the functioning of the mentoring platform. This information is retained as long as the mentoring platform is in operation and you have not withdrawn your consent for its use.

We use the personal information you provide in the matching process and make it available in any mentoring relationships that you participate in. The information collected is not used for any other purpose outside of the system and will not be shared with any third party. The data is held in an EU data centre and is not transferred outside the EU and we do not use any automated decision making or profiling on your data.

What if the mentoring relationship doesn't work out the way you plan?

There could be a variety of reasons for this. You should first try to discuss any issues directly with your mentoring partner, but if you feel you cannot do this, our customer service team will be happy to help.

How long should I wait before a mentor accepts my proposal?

Generally speaking, most mentors respond quite quickly to proposals. However, to allow for the fact that a mentor may be unable to review and respond to a proposal, we send out reminders to mentors. If they have still not responded after 21 days, we will automatically withdraw that proposal and you can then select an alternative mentor.

Can a mentor have more than one mentee?

Yes, mentors can indicate if they are open to mentoring more than one person.

Is my feedback confidential?

Yes, all feedback is stored securely and only used for marketing purposes if the member gives consent. Whenever feedback is used for promotional purposes, we guarantee anonymity of the member.

*For a full list of
FAQs please visit:
smp.org.uk/connect-faqs*



Get Connected today...

Ready to start your mentoring journey?

Visit our website to register in just a few simple steps. Whatever your aim, Connect can help you on your journey. Get started as a mentor or a mentee today.

smp.org.uk/connect



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