

Details of the five available breakout sessions and a brief synopsis of each are shown below.

1. Recruitment and Retention of Mentors – Good Practice Sharing: Amanda Skinner, SMN

Volunteer mentor recruitment and retention has been a frequently raised topic at our local network meetings so we felt a breakout session around this would be useful. During this session Amanda will outline some good practice examples of recruitment and retention from our member projects and then the session will be opened up to allow delegates to share experiences and any lessons learned they have around this topic.

2. Goal Setting 101: Vikki Doig, Youth Theatre Arts Scotland

Setting specific and achievable goals is a must for any mentoring relationship. But how do you do it?

Join Youth Theatre Arts Scotland for a fun and engaging session exploring some practical tools for goal setting with your mentees.

3. Making Mentoring Matches: Lyn Simpson, The Financial Conduct Authority

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) currently runs a mentoring scheme for S2 (13 year olds) in partnership with Tynecastle High School, Edinburgh.

Its innovative approach to matching mentors and mentees, uses a mixture of the school's knowledge of the young people, paper based matching and a group matching event. The matching event provided an introduction to 1-2-1 mentoring conversations and also allowed everyone to get to know each other before the mentoring programme officially began.

The FCA session will enable participants to experience this approach in practice and gauge whether it's something that could work for them. Participants will be allocated into mentor and mentee groups ahead of the session and will be asked to complete and submit a matching form to make the experience as real as possible on the day.

It should be a fun but practical learning opportunity. Session numbers are capped at 24.

4. Mentoring programmes: Management, administration and the ever-expanding spreadsheet: Jos Finer, University of St Andrews

All activity has a cost, so efficient management of mentoring programmes is critical to maintaining and building capacity

During this session Jos Finer, from the University of St Andrews, will talk about different approaches to managing work flows and the data which is generated at every stage of the process - and how this can create extra cost and inefficiency. Jos will also discuss how St Andrews has approached this, making more effective use of technology to streamline workflows, and make scheme data more accurate and accessible,

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enabling them to run multiple programmes with huge increases in participant numbers.

5. SMN New Training Options: Sarah Barr, SMN

SMN has been developing a new range of new training opportunities for mentoring coordinators and mentors. The new training courses will be officially launched at the National Event. These have been developed to help increase the skills and knowledge of those involved in mentoring in Scotland.

Our new programme of training reflects feedback from previous training courses and information we gather from our quality award assessments and consultations with member projects. This breakout session will be an opportunity to learn more about the new training options in detail and discuss how you could use them to enhance the work of your mentoring project.