Through my mentoring relationship I was supported to reflect on areas of practice I had been questioning, build new skills, and develop a deeper appreciation of aspects of OT that often get lost when managing the day-to-day practicalities of the work. My mentor facilitated an empowering process and renewed my energy and enthusiasm for occupational therapy.

– A MentorLink mentee

I found the experience of mentoring rewarding. Whilst initially concerned would be “time away” from my practice, it proved to be time invested into my professional practice. My mentee came with energy and determination, and it was a privilege to work along-side her as she emerged into the next phase of her life as an occupational therapist.

– A MentorLink mentor

MentorLink contact and support

The National MentorLink Coordinator facilitates matches, monitors progress and provides resources, tools and support to participants. Lissa works part time but will be in contact you as soon as possible.

Contact
The National MentorLink Coordinator
E: mentorlink@otaus.com.au

About
Occupational Therapy Australia

Occupational Therapy Australia is the professional association for occupational therapists in Australia.

Our members are qualified occupational therapists employed throughout the public and private sectors. They provide health care, vocational rehabilitation, and consultancy to clients.

Our mission is to provide member benefits through access to local professional support and resources, and through opportunities to contribute to, and shape, professional excellence.

For more information on Occupational Therapy Australia, visit www.otaus.com.au.
CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) POINTS

CPD points may be claimed by both mentors and mentees.

Mentors are potentially able to claim CPD points by providing or mentoring for a colleague under Category 3: Engagement with the Profession (up to 10 hours each registration year).

Mentees can record their hours as Category 2: Informal Learning (up to 25 hours each registration year).

HOW ARE MATCHES MADE?

- Matches are made on a clinical speciality/interest basis
- All matches are made 'by hand' via the MentorLink Coordinator to ensure the best possible match is made
- Whilst we cannot guarantee a match, all efforts will be made to find a suitable mentor for a registered mentee
- In some areas (especially paediatrics), there may be a waiting list and it may take some time to find a suitable/available mentor
- There are mentors and mentees in all States and Territories of Australia, and many matches have interstate participants.

MENTORING PARTNERSHIPS

- Partnerships vary in length, some lasting 12 months plus, and contact frequency varies
- Various modalities are used to communicate – face-to-face, email, phone, Skype, as negotiated by the participants
- An initial conversation via phone or email is encouraged to determine the suitability of the match. A ‘no fault divorce’ clause can be used if either of the two parties feel the partnership isn’t suitable, and another match can be made
- Regular communication between the two parties is encouraged and can be negotiated to suit
- It is the mentee’s role to initiate and drive the partnership to encourage interest and commitment. They need to set goals for the partnership, and be in regular contact with the mentor
- Time must be set aside by both the mentor and mentee to ensure the success of the partnership. This may be negotiated between the parties and can vary from an hour a week to once a month.

HOW CAN YOU REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN MENTORLINK?

Registering is easy. Simply visit the MentorLink website at www.mentorlinklounge.com and sign up with your details. Mentors, please complete the Mentor Self-Assessment Evaluation and provide a short biography of your experience.

After registration on the website, the National MentorLink Coordinator will be in touch to clarify any information and begin the matching process.