What is this mentoring thing?

Meanwhile at the mall...

Haven't seen him Miss Berry...

At Joey's house that night...

How was school?

Fine mum

Joey, remember to do the shopping tomorrow - I have to work overtime - we need the money.

Next day at school...

OK, who's done the homework from last week?

Sure mum.
Miss, I was sick last week...

...Joey?

Where's your homework?

What do you think? I don't have it with me.

*Sigh*

Later in the staff room

I'm really worried about one of my year 10s, Joey... I hardly see him.

I'm beginning to wonder what he looks like!

And when he does turn up he doesn't pay attention, disrupts the others and he's really struggling!

hmm

Me too.

MENTORING PROGRAM GRADUATION NIGHT

VROOM VROOM
Later that day
Hi Sweetie. How was your day?
OK.

Joey! Didn’t you shop? What are we going to eat for dinner?

What were you doing?
Sorry mum.

Next day at school...

Joey? I have something I want you to check out. It’s a mentoring program presentation night. Nothing huge and serious, just where the mentors and young people are speaking about the stuff they’ve done together. No pressure.

Maybe I will check out this presentation/mentoring thing...

That night...

Hi everyone. I’m Nick. Me and my mentor do stuff like kick the footy... see movies. My mentor lets me choose what we do and we sort things out together...
Come and meet Grace.

Grace

Yeah, we’ve done heaps of fun stuff like catching up for coffee. It was fun ‘cos the café had some cool art on the walls. I was like: “I could so do that!”… so now I have my own sketch book and I’m working on my own art now. My mentor has been great about it. She’s always encouraging me to keep working on my art.

Joey, come meet Hung

Hung

Things have been pretty tough at home and I was really angry all the time. My mentor and Brendan have helped me work out some stuff at home. They helped with my anger too. It’s still there, but I can control it better.

OK, maybe I’ll give it a go.

Soon...

So Brendan, do you think you can match Joey with a mentor?

A few months later...

Joey: this is Rhys.


What kinda things do you like to do?

hmmm?

catching up for coffee?

Soccer?

Gigs?

bowling?

riding?
Some time later...

Even later...

Later at school...

Hey Joey,
So Rhys, why do you do this?

I guess everyone needs help sometimes.

... I thought I'd get involved in the mentoring program 'cause I wanted to give something back.

Hey what kinda stuff do you listen to?

... I always liked HipHop. I guess.

Awesome! There's a place you might like up the road.

And homework!

hmm

So you getting a handle on it now?

Good Work Joey! Let's see more of it eh?
Some months later...

Later at the mentoring meeting

This year has gone quickly

Yeah I know!

I never thought I'd do half the stuff I've done. Mentoring has been cool.

I've bought these new CDs from this cheap 2nd hand music shop Rhys showed me. Been getting into breakdancing... but I reckon it would be sweet to learn how to DJ.

Sounds alright.

And it's great to have Rhys to talk to.

end
Want to find out more about mentoring in your area?

For more information about mentoring and links to organisations that can help, check out www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/mentoring