

# Becoming a mentor on the ART Training Scheme

---

**Everyone enters the ART Training Scheme as a teacher.**

**Some teachers are asked to take on the additional responsibility and commitment of mentoring a less experienced teacher.**

Mentors provide guidance and support to teachers after the day course, complementing their knowledge of the ART Training Scheme techniques with their wide experience of teaching and people.

Typically mentors have a large amount of teaching experience and are actively engaged in current teaching, possibly at multiple towers. More and more of our mentors have gained their experience by teaching using the ART Approach and are already ART Members. Mentors don't have to be brilliant ringers but they do have to be good teachers.

Those with the appropriate skills are chosen in consultation with the course Tutor.

## **What does a mentor do?**

**Mentors provide guidance and support to teachers, complementing their knowledge of ART Training Scheme techniques with their wide experience of teaching and people.**

The position of mentor is a responsible one and involves on-going commitment following the ART day course. A mentor is expected to work with their teacher to develop and extend their skills and techniques after the course. Mentors also have an important role to play in arranging the assessment of teachers and the submission of data online via the SmART Ringer website.

Mentoring takes time, self-knowledge and good communication skills. A teacher will be looking to their mentor to:

- acquire knowledge and information.
- receive feedback to help develop skills.
- offer suggestions, guidance, and ideas.

Immediately after the course the mentor will need to ensure that their teacher starts teaching as soon as they can and completes the online theory test. They should be building a rapport with their teacher; taking the lead role in building a relationship. Teacher and mentor should work together developing practical and leadership skills until the teacher is capable of working independently. Teaching alongside each other is often the best way of mentoring.

Mentors become an accredited member of ART when their teacher completes a module. However, if their teacher does not complete a module they can still gain accreditation as a teacher in their own right.

## Attributes of a good mentor

**Mentoring takes time, self-knowledge and good communication skills.**

### **A mentor should be:**

Positive at all times  
Encouraging  
Patient  
Committed  
Prepared to listen  
Prepared to challenge  
Trustworthy  
Empathetic  
Ensuring ART techniques are used

### **A mentor should not be:**

Confrontational  
Negative  
Dictatorial  
Unwilling to change

## What are the responsibilities of the mentor?

1. Attend the appropriate day course (Module 1, 2C or 2F)
2. Ensure new ringers are registered onto the SmART Ringer website by the teacher and they are issued with individual Learning the Ropes Personal Progress Logbooks. Additional logbooks can be ordered via the SmART Ringer website
3. Help the teacher with lesson plans and ensure they are entered into the Teacher Training Logbook
4. Work with the teacher as they teach and sign the Teacher Training Logbook
5. Complete the online theory test for the appropriate Module
6. When ready, arrange for an ART Assessor to observe a teaching session
7. Ensure the ART Assessor completes and signs the Teacher Training Logbook
8. Complete and sign the appropriate pages of the Teacher Training Logbook
9. Submit recommendation for accreditation to the SmART Ringer website under Mentors Resources on the SmART Ringer website

## How does a mentor become accredited?

A mentor becomes accredited for each Module when the teacher they have been mentoring is accredited. Both teacher and mentor will then be eligible for membership of ART; as an Associate Member if one Module is completed, as a Full Member if two Modules are completed.

A mentor should self-recommend for accreditation at the same time as the teacher is recommended for accreditation. This is found under Mentors Resources on the SmART Ringer website.

## What if the teacher does not complete a Module?

If the teacher does not complete a Module a mentor can become accredited by following the teaching route.

If accrediting via the teaching route, a mentor will be recommended for accreditation by the ART Assessor after the observed lesson.

## **What does ART Membership offer?**

- Public liability insurance covering teaching ringing in the U.K.
- A DBS check facility has been established via Lloyds Education if you do not already have a DBS check. Once you apply for and receive your DBS certificate from Lloyds Education and register with the update system you will be covered to teach children or vulnerable adults in the U.K.
- On-line safeguarding training available through a Educare.
- A personal ringing development scheme for more advanced ringing skills, “Learning the Ropes +” is available to use for your own ringing or with your Ringers.
- Discounted price for a range of products in the ART on-line shop.
- Teaching Toolboxes, the Youth Toolbox and a Recruitment DVD are all available for free download by Members.