

Becoming a mentor on the ART Training Scheme

What is a mentor?

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 are teachers but also provide guidance and support to other 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 and they have passed a teaching assessment. 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 ART online shop.
3. Help 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. Complete and sign the appropriate pages of the Teacher Training Logbook
8. Ensure the ART Assessor completes and signs the Teacher Training Logbook
9. Successfully complete a teaching session observed by an ART Assessor (normally carried out at the same time as the teacher's assessment)

You have two years to complete a Module to accreditation.

How does a mentor become accredited?

A mentor becomes accredited for each Module when the teacher they have been mentoring is accredited and they have successfully completed a teaching assessment.

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.

ART Membership

Both teacher and mentor will then be eligible for membership of ART.

What does ART Membership offer?

- Full access to the SmART Ringer learning portal
- On-going access to the full Learning the Ropes scheme for ringers
- 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 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
- Appear on our website as an ART Member
- Preferential pricing for the Bell Handling and the Raising & Lowering DVDs
- Free access to the Youth and Teaching Toolboxes
- Reduced ticket price for the ART Conference