

Universiti Putra Malaysia
Faculty of Educational Studies

Roles of Mentor Teachers

Mentor teachers are teachers assigned by the school to assist and guide teacher trainees. The main role of mentor teachers is to help trainees develop and increase their confidence and acquire teaching skills. This can be achieved through:

- a. Provide information related to:
 - i) Personality of students in the classroom;
 - ii) Students' ability and rate of learning;
 - iii) Syllabus and lesson plan;
 - iv) Strengths and weaknesses of the texts used;
 - v) Resources and tools that can be utilized; and
 - vi) Rules, procedure, and academic and extra curricular activities conducted by the school.
- b. Demonstrate teaching techniques and activities as examples of how lessons can be taught.
- c. Explain the instructional objectives and ways to achieve them, rationale for selecting certain activities and teaching methods, and determining how to assess the effectiveness of instruction.
- d. Encourage the trainees to analyze the teaching and learning process taking place in the classroom.
- e. Assist the trainees to understand the purpose of teaching in greater detail.
- f. Discuss with the trainees on the content to be taught.
- g. Discuss trainees' progress in an effort to enhance their teaching skills.
- h. Encourage the trainees to implement their ideas in teaching after discussion with the mentor teachers.
- i. Collaborate with the trainees to help them with disciplinary problems when needed.
- j. Give advice to the trainees based on the teachers' experiences in the classroom. This includes suggesting better teaching and learning activities, and classroom management.
- k. Encourage the trainees to assess their own teaching through effective supervision and evaluation.
- l. Help the trainees to develop self-confidence by giving encouragement and praises after they demonstrate progress in teaching.
- m. Evaluate the trainees' teaching at least twice before the end of the teaching practice based on certain aspects specified in the evaluation form.
- n. Hand in the completed evaluation form to the supervisor/ LMI secretariat.