

## About the Child Mentoring Scheme

The Children's Act 2020 provides for a Child Mentoring Scheme for Children in need of assistance, care and protection.

### Object of the Scheme

To assist children aged between 8 to 16 years who:

- are victims of neglect;
- suffer from behavioral problems;
- are in distress; or
- have problems of social adaptation.

### Aim of the Scheme

Each child has the right to develop a supportive relationship with a caring adult, in view of achieving a sense of personal achievement.

The Scheme aims at empowering children through their matching with role models in the form of an adult child mentor.

### Child Mentoring Order

Under the Scheme, a child is assigned with a Child Mentor pursuant to a Mentoring Order obtained from the Protection Division of the Children's Court.



## Child Mentoring Programme

The Child Mentoring Scheme is implemented through the Child Mentoring Programme by the Child Mentoring Section under the Child Development Unit of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare.

### Benefits of the Programme

Children registered under the Scheme benefit from:

- healthier relationships and lifestyle choices;
- enhanced self-esteem and self-confidence;
- improved behaviour at home;
- better attitude about school;
- stronger relationships with parents, teachers and peers; and
- inbuilt resilience derived from meaningful support from a role model.

### Sessions under the Programme

Mentoring sessions are held after a Mentoring Order is obtained.

Sessions are held for 1-2 hours on a weekly basis as per the child's interests and are adapted according to the child's individual needs. The sessions are designed to support them in crucial stages of their social and emotional development.

### Programme Cycle

Intake of children is all year round and is referred by the Child Protection Services of the Child Development Unit, operating across the island.



**“A MENTOR IS SOMEONE WHO SEES MORE TALENT AND ABILITY WITHIN YOU, THAN YOU SEE IN YOURSELF AND HELPS BRING IT OUT OF YOU.” – BOB PROCTOR**

### Profile of a Child Mentor

A Trained adult Child Mentor is a qualified and experienced person who:

- ✓ has attained the age of 30;
- ✓ is a person of good character and reputation with relevant qualifications or proven experience in matters of child rights, child development, or child psychology;
- ✓ has demonstrated ability to work in a team;
- ✓ has good communication and listening skills;
- ✓ he is in good physical and mental health;
- ✓ enjoys a stable family; and
- ✓ is willing to work flexible hours.

### Role of a Child Mentor

- ✓ Plays a crucial role in providing the required support to the child in meeting his/her caring needs; and
- ✓ Provides the child with such guidance, advice and sense of stability as he/she may require.

## The Child Development Unit

The Child Development Unit (CDU) of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare is mandated to intervene for:

- protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse;
- promoting the well-being and development of children; and
- safeguarding children's rights.

The CDU has 10 regional offices across the island known as Child Protection Services (CPS) wherein cases of children victims of abuse may be alerted, whether at the office itself, or via the hotline 113. A person disclosing or notifying a case has the choice of revealing his/her identity or remaining anonymous.

Child Protection Services (CPS)	Region (District wise)	Phone
<b>CPS Port Louis</b> 1st Floor, SILWF Building Edith Cavell Street, Port Louis	Port Louis	213-0668
<b>CPS Flacq</b> 2nd Floor, Customer Service Centre Ste Ursule Road, Central Flacq	Flacq Moka	4131390
<b>CPS Bambous</b> Royal Road, Bambous	Black River	4520460
<b>CPS Souillac</b> Morcellement VRS, Souillac	Grand Port & Savanne	6251353
<b>CPS Goodlands</b> NPF Building, Goodlands	Riviere du Rempart & Pamplemousses	2837372
<b>CPS Vacoas</b> 2nd Floor, New Municipal Building Ave. John Kennedy, Vacoas	Plaine Wilhems	6983700
<b>CPS Moka</b> Bois Cherie Road, Moka	Moka	4343916
<b>CPS Rose-Hill</b> NPF Building, Rose-Hill	Rose-Hill	4605907
<b>CPS Plaine Magnien</b> Gilbert Road, Plaine Magnien	Plaine Magnien	637 2631
<b>CPS Triolet</b> Mahatma Gandhi Road, Triolet	Triolet	261 3035

## Contact Us

*Supervising Officer*  
*Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare*

7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newton Tower  
Sir William Newton Street  
Port Louis

**Tel:** 405-3300  
**E-mail:** officecpgender@govmu.org  
**E-mail:** mwfwcd@govmu.org  
**Website:** gender.govmu.org

*Coordinator*  
*Child Mentoring Programme*  
*Ministry of Gender Equality and Family Welfare*

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, National Women Development Centre  
Royal Road, Phoenix

**Phone:** 606-0952 / 606-0953  
**Fax:** 696-4558  
**E-mail:** mentoringcdu@gmail.com

**CDU HOTLINE- CHILD ABUSE**  
**113**



Ministry of Gender Equality,  
and Family Welfare



## THE CHILD MENTORING SCHEME



Child Mentoring Programme  
Child Development Unit (CDU)