

YORK UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
ROLE OF THE MENTOR TEACHER



MTRR Transcript

As a Mentor Teacher, your role is to invite your Teacher Candidate (TC) into a learning environment that creates shared experiences of teaching and learning in an Ontario school. You provide authentic opportunities to integrate theory and practice while offering TCs a window into the analysis of student needs and the planning required to facilitate student learning. Working closely with your TC requires an open and trusting professional relationship that invites questioning, solidifies understandings and encourages ongoing reflection on daily successes and challenges. You can support this process of becoming a teacher by

- Modelling a collaborative and inclusive learning environment and a commitment to innovative, inclusive and equitable teaching practices;
- Creating a positive learning climate conducive to supporting risk taking;
- Co-planning and co-teaching with a gradual release of responsibility differentiated to meet the learning needs of the TC;
- Making clear your daily learning objectives, rationale for planning and assessment, reflection on student learning, and educational research you are using to inform your practice;
- Collaborating with your York Practicum Facilitator to support TCs, address issues or concerns, facilitate early resolution and, if required, develop a detailed action plan;
- Providing timely, constructive feedback to encourage ongoing learning;
- Supporting the development of skills and understandings required to meet the learning outcomes and exit requirements of the program; and
- Working collaboratively with the TC to ensure engagement for 100% of the day in the work of teaching and learning, which may include actively observing teaching practices, working with small groups or individual students, taking on daily transitions and routines, co-planning and co-teaching lessons, and independent planning and teaching beginning in the Year Two Consecutive and Concurrent Education programs.

Teacher Candidates are just beginning their teaching careers. We hope that they may soon be your colleagues down the hall. We trust that the leadership, support and guidance you provide will allow them to become exemplary teachers with whom you will look forward to working. Please know that our Faculty is here to support you. The York Practicum Facilitator assigned to your school is always happy to meet with you and your Teacher Candidates to address any challenges and support the success of our partnership. Your participation in our program is highly-valued and much appreciated.