

Annex B: Quotes from community partners, student mentors and beneficiaries

Community Partners

“The NUS mentors added a personal touch and mentees were able to open up to them. Due to their close age gap, the mentor became more of a friend.”

- Esther Ong, Programme Coordinator, Anglican Community Services

“The mentees really enjoyed themselves throughout the mentoring sessions, and they told their parents that they did not want this to end. I would recommend other Family Service Centres to partner Teach SG as the programme is tailored to our needs.”

- Muhammad Khalifah Nazir Bin Mohd Ali, Community Partnership Assistant, Foundation of Rotary Clubs Singapore Family Service Centre

Student Mentors

Background Information	
Name	Miss Celest Chiam Sin Yu
Course and year of study	Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, Year 2
Involvement in Teach SG	Celest has been involved in Teach SG since September 2020, when her team (Young Buds) began planning for the sessions, and started the mentoring sessions proper in May 2021. The mentees for Celest's team were secondary school students under Anglican Community Services. They were linked up by Care Corner, and sessions were conducted at Christ Church Secondary School. While their term with Teach SG ended in July 2021, several of them, including Celest, continued mentoring the students till the end of 2021.
Quote	
“I joined Teach SG to work with children and youths, and expand my perspectives on the less fortunate in our community. My group members and I recognised that we were extremely privileged and we were able to receive many opportunities to attend enrichment classes and pursue our passions when we were younger. My group wanted to pay it forward through this project. Furthermore, we believed in the immense potential of students at secondary school age, it being their growing years, we hoped to bridge the gap in opportunities between them and their peers. Teach SG was very supportive and involved - not only did they provide projects like ours with funding for teaching and activity materials, they also helped match us with beneficiaries. My experience with Teach SG has taught me that there is so much joy in giving, and I have been motivated by my mentees' eagerness to learn and positive attitude to learning. As the mentees will mirror the energy we provide, it is important to spend time doing our best for our mentees.”	

Background Information	
Name	Mr Muhammad Rafiqi B Leman
Course and year of study	Department of Chemistry at College of Humanities and Sciences, Year 4
Involvement in Teach SG	Rafiki joined Teach SG in February 2022, and has participated in eight weeks of weekly mentoring sessions to date. In the Teach SG programme, he works together with three other mentors to provide academic support and mentoring to students of Bedok Green Primary School.
Quote	
"I joined Teach SG to further hone my communications and mentoring skills, and to give myself the opportunity to develop empathy, care and concern towards the people around me. As an aspiring educator, I aim to be more cognisant of the diversity among children and youths so that I am able to be more understanding and adaptable in my interactions with students. Through Teach SG, I realised that learning is a two-way street. I have learnt a lot from how my mentees overcome challenges in their day-to-day life, and take initiative to help their peers voluntarily. These moments have evolved my perspective towards mentoring as more of a facilitative role where mentors co-learn with their mentees. I also learnt that it is important for mentees' voices and opinions to be heard, such as when they suggest activities for future sessions. When the mentees are given greater autonomy and a safe space to voice their opinions and contribute ideas, there is greater mutual trust between mentors and mentees, which is crucial for a positive mentor-mentee relationship."	

Beneficiaries

"My mentor and I have regular conversations and I like having someone whom I can relate to. After spending time with her, I started taking my studies seriously. She motivated me to come to the mentoring sessions and pursue my dreams to become a psychiatrist."

– Isabella Aw, Anglican Community Services (Mentored by Celest Chiam)