

Big Brothers and Sisters  
Of Warren and Clinton Counties, Inc.  
**School Based Mentoring**

***Most Frequently Asked Questions:***

**1. If I get involved, what is my time commitment?**

1 Day a week, 45 min- 1 hour

**2. Is this like tutoring?**

No. Mentoring involves relationship building. We want you and the child to have fun and for your time together to be enjoyable and carefree. Therefore, you will be playing games, cards, doing arts and crafts, or even just hanging out, talking. If, however, the child is in desperate need of help with schoolwork, organizational types of things (folders, etc.), please feel free to assist them as this will make their life and time at school more productive and enjoyable.

**3. Do the kids have behavioral issues?**

Not necessarily. Children are referred to us by counselors, teachers, and principals. So, their concerns for the child range from school needs (trouble making friends), academic needs (not turning in homework), emotional needs (an issue they're dealing with at home), to behavior issues (bullying, acting out). It should be noted even children referred to us for behavioral issues typically do not exhibit these behaviors during our program, as the program is a very positive part of their day.

**4. Are the children in the school based program from single parent families?**

Not necessarily, it is not a part of the eligibility guidelines for SBM as it is for our CBM program.

**5. Where do we meet in the school?**

Each school is different, but most have an assigned room/area- including media centers, cafeterias, gyms, teachers' lounges, etc.

**6. Will I meet my Little Brother/Sister's teacher?**

In most schools, the Littles meet us at the designated location, and at other schools you will be able to go to your Little's classroom and pick them up. If this is the case, an introduction can be made. Also we do send a letter to the teacher to let them know you are their Big and if they have something specific for you to work on with the child, they have a form they can complete and give to us.

**7. Are the children from a low economic background?**

Not necessarily. As mentioned in question 3, they are referred to our program for many different reasons.

**8. What if my Little and I simply don't get along or have a personality clash?**

We work very hard to make good matches right from the beginning- looking for compatible personalities, common interests, etc. If the match simply is not working and needs to be closed, it will be taken care of professionally and kindly.

**9. Will I meet my Little's parents?**

Probably not. Since the program is held at school during the day, you will probably not meet the parent(s). However, the parent is invited (via letter) to come to the school during the program to meet you- so, it is possible.

**10. What if my Little invites me to their game or birthday party, etc.?**

Our guideline is no contact outside of the school building. However, if it is a public setting you are certainly free to attend. Be sure to introduce yourself to the adult the child is with, explaining you work with them at school and they invited you. If you happen to see your Little at the grocery, etc., please be sure to introduce yourself to the adult the child is with. **At no time may you transport the child to/from an activity.** You are not screened through our program for transportation and will not be covered under our insurance policy.