



*One Teenager; One Mentor; Regular Time Investment;
Encouragement; Inspiration*

This is the vision for ROAD TRIP – a new youth mentoring program developed by Bec Olver, in partnership with Bellarine Secondary College.

Bec has been mentoring students at the Bellarine Year 7/8 campus for the past 3½ years, and has been encouraged by the results. *“One girl that I saw this year was struggling with bullying and self harm issues, she now has stopped self harming, and has equipped herself to de-fuse the bullying.” “Another girl I see still has stuff going on, but is slowly changing and coming to youth group and church!”*

Earlier this year Bec was asked to manage the school’s mentoring program and given permission to develop “ROAD TRIP”. In the program there are 5 different mentoring options, chosen depending on the needs of the student – reading, practical (eg. woodwork, cookery), friendship, leadership and “moving on” (from bullying, low self-esteem, anger, etc.)

Mentors come from churches and the community with the goal to give teenagers time once a week to “invest, encourage and inspire.” All mentors are trained, and followed up regularly. A pilot program was launched in Term 3, with 9 students and their mentors.

“Too many teens lack consistent healthy role models in their life. Many desire to be loved and cared for ...mentoring can begin that journey,” says Bec.

“It’s time to take them on a Road Trip and see where it leads...”