What is Check & Connect?

Check & Connect is a model of ongoing, systematic intervention and support to promote students' engagement at school and with learning.

Each student participating in Check & Connect is assigned a mentor. Check & Connect mentors seek to build long-term, sustained relationships with participating students that will connect them with their school and help them make academic progress.

Check & Connect is an evidence-based mentoring intervention for K-12 students who show warning signs of disengagement with school and who are at risk of dropping out. At the core of Check & Connect (C&C) is a trusting relationship between the student and a caring mentor who —

- **Builds a strong relationship** with students based on mutual trust and open communication focused on success at school and with learning.
- **Systematically “Checks” on students**, assessing their engagement with school and learning through close monitoring of their attendance, behavior, and grades.
- **“Connects” with students**, offering individualized intervention in partnership with school personnel, families, and community service providers.
- **Partners with parents/families**, functioning as a liaison between home and school and striving to build constructive family-school relationship

**STUDENT OUTCOMES**

**Increase in**
- Attendance
- Persistence in school
- Credit accrual
- School completion rates

**Decrease in**
- Truancy
- Tardies
- Behavioral referrals
- Dropout rates

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MENTOR?**

Contact Jessica Long  
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Check & Connect was developed through a partnership between the University of Minnesota’s Institute on Community Integration and Minneapolis Public Schools. Since its inception in 1990, Check & Connect has been studied and implemented with K-12 students with and without disabilities, in suburban and urban settings. Check & Connect is currently being implemented by schools and community organizations across the U.S. as well as abroad.

*For more information, visit: checkandconnect.umn.edu*