EMBARGOED TILL THURSDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2026, AFTER DELIVERY OF SPS GOH HANYAN'S SPEECH

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW ITE MENTORING COLLECTIVE TO PROVIDE 10,000 MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES ANNUALLY BY 2030

Part of the SG Youth Plan move to make mentoring more accessible for youths

Thursday, 19 November 2026 – Students at the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) will have greater access to mentoring support, through a new ITE Mentoring Collective, as they navigate key life transitions and chart their own paths. **The Collective aims to provide 10,000 mentoring opportunities to ITE students annually by 2030.**

2 The ITE Mentoring Collective is launched as part of the SG Youth Plan, a whole-of-society roadmap to empower young Singaporeans to become the best versions of themselves. Announced by Ms Goh Hanyan, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth & Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment, at the launch at ITE College Central, the Collective was formalised through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between ITE, National Youth Council (NYC), and The Astronauts Collective (TAC) today.

3 **Launching with 18 founding members from the people, private, and philanthropic sectors, the Collective brings together members with different strengths, expertise, and networks.** It seeks to connect students to mentoring that fits their needs, with insights from students and mentors shaping the design and delivery of programmes. It will also build a vibrant mentoring ecosystem that is responsive to students' diverse needs and aspirations, regardless of their background. The list of founding members can be found in the **Annex**.

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Three Organisations, One Shared Commitment

4 The Collective is built on a partnership between three organisations. ITE drives outreach across its Colleges and connects students to mentoring opportunities; NYC links the Collective with wider national youth mentoring efforts and provides networks, resources, and funding support; while TAC coordinates the Collective, conducts research to understand students' needs, and works with members to develop relevant mentoring opportunities and programmes. They will be supported by the founding members and other mentoring partners who share the vision of making mentoring more accessible for ITE students.

5 The Collective also builds on existing mentoring efforts at ITE. By mapping mentoring across the Colleges and connecting students to suitable programmes, it aims to give every ITE student who wants to be mentored the opportunity to do so, regardless of their background or pathway.

What the Collective will offer Students

6 According to NYC's SG Youth Plan engagements, 86% of mentored youths found mentoring beneficial in navigating life transitions and gaining access to more networks and resources. Additionally, 77% of mentored youths have recommended mentoring to their peers, while 71% expressed interest in becoming mentors themselves – signs of a growing mentoring culture in Singapore.

7 By convening a network of partners offering a broad range of mentoring opportunities, the Collective will make it easier for ITE students to find mentoring opportunities best suited for their needs and access guidance as they navigate their education and career pathways.

8 To support its members in delivering meaningful mentoring sessions, the Collective will share insights, support programmes, and facilitate partnerships:

- **Insights:** TAC's research with students will help partners design and deliver programmes that respond to student needs. Mentors will also have access to

shared resources, including an annual mentoring insights report, communities of practice and mentoring training to continually hone their knowledge and skills for the benefit of their mentees.

- **Programmes:** The Collective will facilitate joint programmes and referrals across mentoring initiatives and reach out to relevant ITE student groups so that mentoring is responsive to their needs.
- **Partnership Facilitation:** The Collective will connect corporates and members who are keen to contribute through volunteering, funding, and other areas of support.

9 The Collective will enable members and mentors to co-design resources and share best practices to build a well-supported mentoring ecosystem. From 2027, it hopes to welcome more members to broaden the mentoring opportunities available to ITE students. Interested organisations can get in touch with the Collective at https://go.gov.sg/imc-interestform.

10 Mr David Chua, Chief Executive Officer of NYC, said, "The ITE Mentoring Collective is a step towards our goal of making mentoring more accessible. By bringing partners from different sectors together, we want every ITE student who wishes to be mentored to have the chance to do so. We invite more organisations and individuals to step forward and support our youths, and to help to strengthen a mentoring culture in Singapore where young people can thrive."

11 Mr Peter Lam, Chief Executive Officer of ITE, said, "Our students have tremendous potential, and mentoring can help them realise it. Beyond academics, we nurture their personal growth and career readiness, and the Collective complements this with trusted guidance. We hope students will benefit from mentors who bring diverse perspectives and experience and help them chart their own paths."

12 Mr Marvin Kang, Co-founder of TAC, said, "Through our career development work with ITE students in programmes like World X and JumpStart, which focuses on exposing students to diverse careers and mentoring them through their school-to-work transition respectively, we've seen how the right mentor can make a significant

difference in a student's growth. But students often don't know where to find these opportunities, and mentoring efforts can sometimes feel fragmented. As the convenor of the Collective, TAC will bring partners together to make mentoring easier to find, improve its impact, and keep it relevant to the realities students face as they journey through school and beyond."

From Commitment to Action

13 NYC has been steadily growing a network of mentors and scaling up mentoring opportunities with partners. The Collective contributes to the SG Youth Plan's ambition to grow a strong mentoring culture and democratise access to mentoring opportunities for more youths. By rallying partners to contribute in their own capacities, the launch puts this shared commitment into action, so that ITE students can navigate their next steps with greater confidence.

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About the National Youth Council (NYC)

At NYC, we believe in a world where young people are respected and heard and have the ability to influence and make a difference in the world. Together with our partners, we develop future-ready youth who are committed to Singapore by instilling in them a heart for service, resilience and an enterprising spirit.

About the Institute of Technical Education (ITE)

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) was established as a post-secondary institution in 1992, under the Ministry of Education. ITE is a principal provider of career and technical education and a key developer of national skills certification and standards, skilling Singapore for the future economy. It offers three key programmes - (1) Pre-Employment Training for youths after secondary education (2) Continuing Education and Training for adult learners and (3) Workplace Learning and Work-Study Programmes with employers. Under its 'One ITE System, Three Colleges' Governance Model, ITE has three Colleges - ITE College Central, ITE College East and ITE College West. For more information, please visit our website at https://www.ite.edu.sg

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About The Astronauts Collective (TAC)

The Astronauts Collective (TAC) is a career development charity for youths, with Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status. Founded in 2015, TAC believes that meaningful careers contribute to better well-being and helps youths navigate the journey from school to work with purpose and possibility. It focuses on pre-tertiary and tertiary youths, especially those from more challenging backgrounds, connecting them with the networks, role models, and first chances that help them see where they could go and get there. Through programmes built around career discovery, career access, and career preparedness, TAC brings together a collective of volunteer professionals, educators, employers, and partners to walk alongside youths on their school-to-work journey.

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Annex

List of Founding Members under the ITE Mentoring Collective

Sector	Partner
Private	1. Accenture 2. GIC 3. Standard Chartered
People	4. 4PM 5. Access Singapore 6. AMP Singapore 7. Bethesda Care Services 8. Generation Singapore 9. MENDAKI 10. MILK Fund 11. National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) 12. River Valley Irregulars 13. SINDA 14. TomoWork Ltd. 15. TOUCH Community Services 16. Voices of Asia 17. Young Women's Leadership Connection
Philanthropic	18. Quantedge Foundation (Singapore) Ltd