Things you may find helpful

1. Build trust
   Allow your mentees to open up their goals and needs, and then exemplify what parts you will help on through your own experience and reflection.

2. Facilitate
   At first, try to take an active role facilitating the discussions to ensure progress. After a while, this responsibility transfers to your mentee to take control.

3. Establish a comfort zone and be clear
   Establish your communication style from the beginning. Be clear in what you want out of the relationship. If you are not looking to invest, make sure you nip this all in the bud at the start.

4. Guide, don’t control
   A lot of people like giving solutions. Try not to be that person. Instead, try discovering and co-developing solutions with your mentee.

5. Ask the right questions
   Get to the route of the problem by asking specific questions with the goal of uncovering any potential deficiencies leading you to suggest a suitable course of action.

6. Be challenging and direct
   Give critical feedback, however hard it is.

7. Experience matters, say what you know
   Try and focus on utilizing the talents and experience you have to the fullest, thereby, adding more applicable value to any related problems

8. Be Humble
   Try not to impose your thoughts and views on the entrepreneur. Be humble in your approach. Don’t be dismissive if they don’t understand or take your advice up immediately.

9. Action plan
   Develop a clear action plan, don’t be vague. Try to come up with S.M.A.R.T (Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Relevant, Time Bound) goals

10. Hold information in confidence
    Remember the ideas and business plans shared with you by startups are highly confidential. Do not share this information outside of the mentoring relationship.

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