



In2 science

STEM peer mentoring in schools

"I FEEL MORE MOTIVATED AND INSPIRED TO GET INTO SCIENCE WHEN I'M OLDER. NOT ONLY THAT, I'VE MADE FRIENDS. I FEEL I'VE HAD SOMEONE TO TALK TO, WHO'S LIKE ME."

– Year 8 student, Virtual School Victoria



About us

In2science is an innovative, award-winning program, which increases student engagement in maths and science by placing volunteer university students as peer mentors in secondary school classes.

In2science was established in 2004 and is a La Trobe University-led collaboration with The University of Melbourne, RMIT University, Swinburne University of Technology and Monash University.

How does the program work?

In2science mentors work with secondary school science or maths students for a 10 week period. Working with the classroom teacher, the mentors help students, share their own experiences and motivations for studying at university, and relate school work to real-world examples. In2science has two delivery methods:



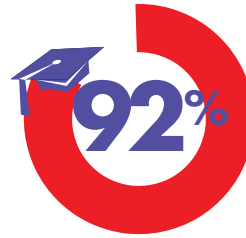
In-class Mentoring: mentors attend class in person and help the students with their learning in a small group or whole class setting.



eMentoring: an innovative online mentoring program that connects secondary school students in regional Victoria with eMentors over an interactive platform.

Over **500** students mentored online during 2020

In 2020, in response to the **COVID-19** pandemic, In2science leveraged its experience with eMentoring to provide flexible and tailored support to secondary school STEM students through online mentoring.



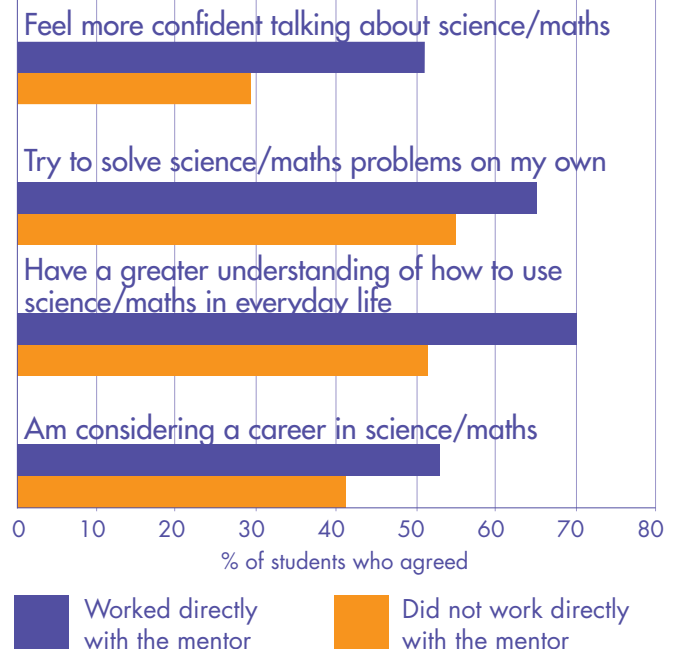
of teachers noticed certain students engaged more in the lesson with a mentor present

Program Aims

- Increase engagement in science and maths for improved student outcomes, particularly for under-represented groups of students
- Increase awareness of STEM skills in all careers for students, mentors and teachers
- Create partnerships between universities and schools

After having an In2science Mentor I now...

ACER Evaluation 2017



“BEING A MENTOR HAS DEFINITELY PUT ME OUTSIDE MY COMFORT ZONE, BUT HAS TAUGHT ME SO MANY NEW SKILLS AND GROWN MY CONFIDENCE SO MUCH”

– Emma Holder, Mentor,
Swinburne University of Technology

“THE SUPPORT AND CARE THAT MENTORS GAVE OUR STUDENTS WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE TERM FOR THE STUDENTS AND ALSO FOR US, AS IT REALLY CONTEXTUALIZED THEIR LEARNING AND PROVIDED MANY BENEFITS.”

– Stephanie Brown, Teacher, Bundoora Secondary College



In2science STEM Content Creation

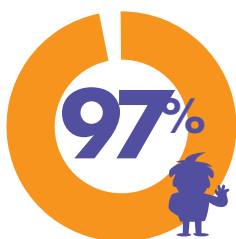
To provide additional support for teachers and students, In2science mentors created engaging digital STEM resources to facilitate a richer STEM learning experience. All resources are freely available on the In2science YouTube channel.



100% of eMentoring students feel that studying maths or science at university is achievable after having a Mentor.

	2020*	Total since 2004
Partner schools	55	196
Mentor placements	239	3,334
Students	2,314	71,496

*Includes 21 mentor placements coordinated by University of Western Australia



97% of mentors agreed that participation in In2science developed skills they will use in the future

Benefits of In2science

School students experience

- positive interactions with role models in STEM
- increased engagement in STEM
- increased connections between curriculum and the real world

Teachers gain

- additional classroom assistance and support
- access to current knowledge in STEM
- understanding of university courses and links with universities

Mentors develop

- communication and interpersonal skills
- an understanding of teaching and are more likely to consider it as a vocational pathway
- enhanced graduate capabilities

Universities increase

- educational outcomes for their graduates
- strength of relationships with schools

Industry partners build

- Deeper relationships with their communities, through In2science partner schools
- Connections with highly motivated mentors with outstanding communication and interpersonal skills
- Understanding of, and influence on, their local STEM talent pipeline

“OUR HIGHLY SKILLED STEM EMPLOYEES ARE EXCITED TO BE HEADING INTO THE CLASSROOM TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO CONSIDER THE DIVERSE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE.”

– CSL Behring Broadmeadows Senior Vice President and General Manager, Tricia Stewart.

In2science Partner Schools



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CSL Behring



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