



In2science

STEM peer mentoring in schools



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

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SWINBURNE
UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY

in2science.org.au

"In2science helped me by expanding my horizons. My mentor helped me explore future opportunities and gave me fantastic advice."

– Year 9 student, Galen Catholic College



RMIT
UNIVERSITY

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 and Swinburne University of Technology.

Our Vision

In2science's vision is to be Australia's premier STEM outreach program, harnessing the power of peer mentoring to enable learners of all backgrounds to realise their STEM potential.

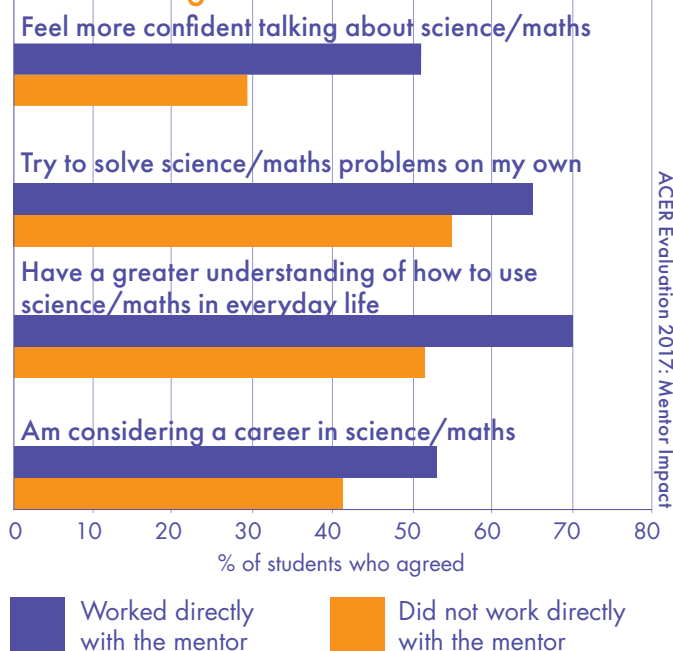
Our Mission

In2science helps secondary school students from under-represented groups to realise their STEM potential by:

- Increasing engagement in science and maths for improved student outcomes
- Increasing awareness of STEM skills in all careers for students, mentors and teachers
- Providing role models and creating visibility to STEM career pathways through partnerships between universities, schools and STEM Industry



After having an In2science Mentor I now...



"My eMentor was a wonderful person that has helped me so much in my career choices. She taught me more about the things that I am interested in, such as forensic science, and went out of her way to give me the best experience ever."

- Year 9 student, Ballarat High School

"The mentors were fabulous and formed deep relationships, really inspiring and engaging my students through their area of expertise. This instilled in my students the passion to continue their studies in science and beyond at university."

- Lakshmi Sharma, Coburg High School

How does the program work in schools?

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:

1. In-class Mentoring:

Mentors attend class in person and help the students with their learning in a small group or whole class setting. During periods of remote learning, In2science provides flexible, tailored support for students via online mentoring.

2. eMentoring:

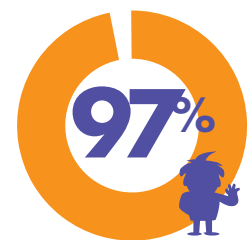
An innovative online mentoring program that connects secondary school students in regional Victoria with eMentors over an interactive platform.

“Providing support and encouraging the ‘awesomeness’ behind the science in the classroom has been really fulfilling and fun. It’s been a really great experience.”

- Amanda Buttress, RMIT University



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



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



of eMentoring students feel that studying maths or science at university is achievable

“Studying STEM opens up a world of opportunities, leading to a diverse range of exciting career pathways. Toyota Community Trust is proud to support In2science as they mentor the next generation of STEM Professionals.”

- Scott Thompson, Chair, Toyota Community Trust

	2021*	Total since 2004
Partner schools	54	203
Mentor placements	187	3,521
Students	3,294	74,790

*includes 93 mentor placements engaging with 1063 students online

Mentor Leaders Program

In 2021, with support from Toyota Community Trust, In2science launched the inaugural Mentor Leaders Program, which aims to accelerate mentors’ leadership capacity. Experienced In2science mentors are paired with early-career STEM professionals to enhance their understanding of STEM career options and pathways. In turn, mentors support students to better understand the connections between curriculum, careers, and the importance of STEM skills for addressing global challenges.

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

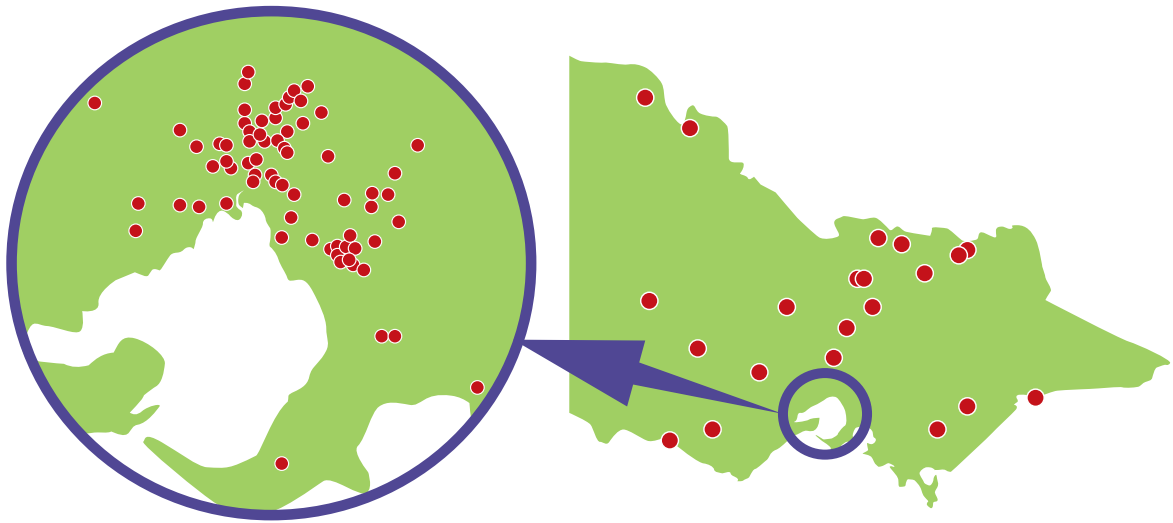
Universities increase:

- 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

In2science Partner Schools



Board Members

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