In2science

STEM peer mentoring in schools

"We have been so lucky having the mentor come and support science in our classroom and even now some students are seriously thinking of changing career paths into science because of him alone. It is an amazing program."

– Brett Barber, St Peter's College

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

RMIT UNIVERSITY

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

in2science.org.au

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 Deakin University.

Our Vision

In2science's vision is to be Australia's premier STEM outreach program, harnessing the power of peer mentoring, so that all learners, regardless of their background, can realise their STEM potential.

Our Mission

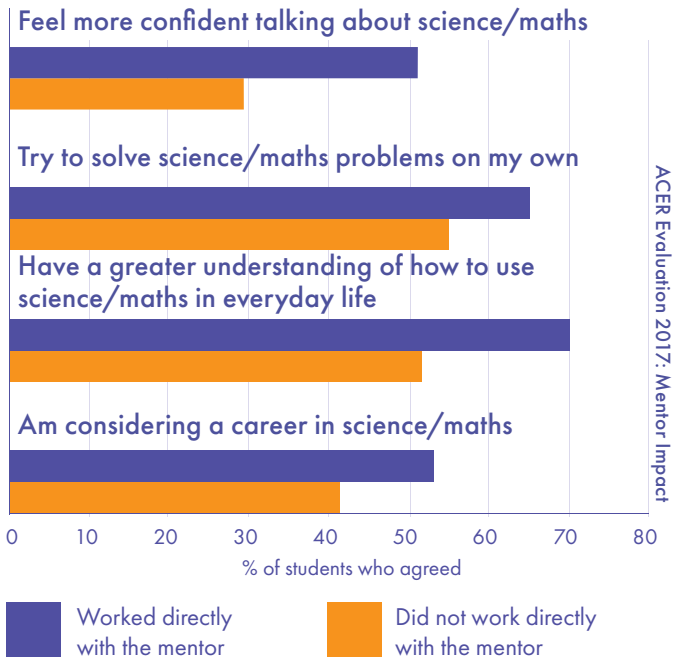
In2science helps secondary school students realise their STEM potential by:

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

"My favourite part of every week is talking to my mentor, hearing about her work, and getting to talk about my own experiences. She is my biggest inspiration, my role model, and my idol."
- Year 10 student, Galen Catholic College

"I have had a number of mentors over time and this was again a rewarding and worthwhile experience."
- Wendy Gooley, Templestowe College

After having an In2science Mentor I now...



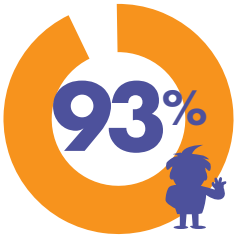
How does the program work in schools?

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.

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

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



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

of teachers agree that the mentor was a good role model and shared passion, experience and knowledge of career pathways using STEM

"It was really rewarding to get to know my mentee, gain their trust, and see them slowly begin to commit to attending sessions and wanting to improve on their school work and organisational skills. This program can have a great benefit to a great range of individuals who need that bit of extra attention and communication."

- Olivia Salamone, Swinburne University of Technology

	2022	Total since 2004
Partner schools	49	209
Mentor placements	216	3,737
Students	3,564	78,354

"We can use the power of science to solve so many of the world's problems, and the best place for this to start is in a learning environment at schools and universities. This is where the In2science program shines in empowering the next generation of STEM professionals."

- Helen Tower, CSL Seqirus Senior Validation Specialist and 2022 Women in Industry Rising Star of the Year

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.

This year we expanded the program to run over both semesters, increased the number of mentor/mentee pairs, and had a greater range of industry participation. The program produces mutually beneficial and long-lasting relationships, with one mentee even being offered an internship at their mentor's company.

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

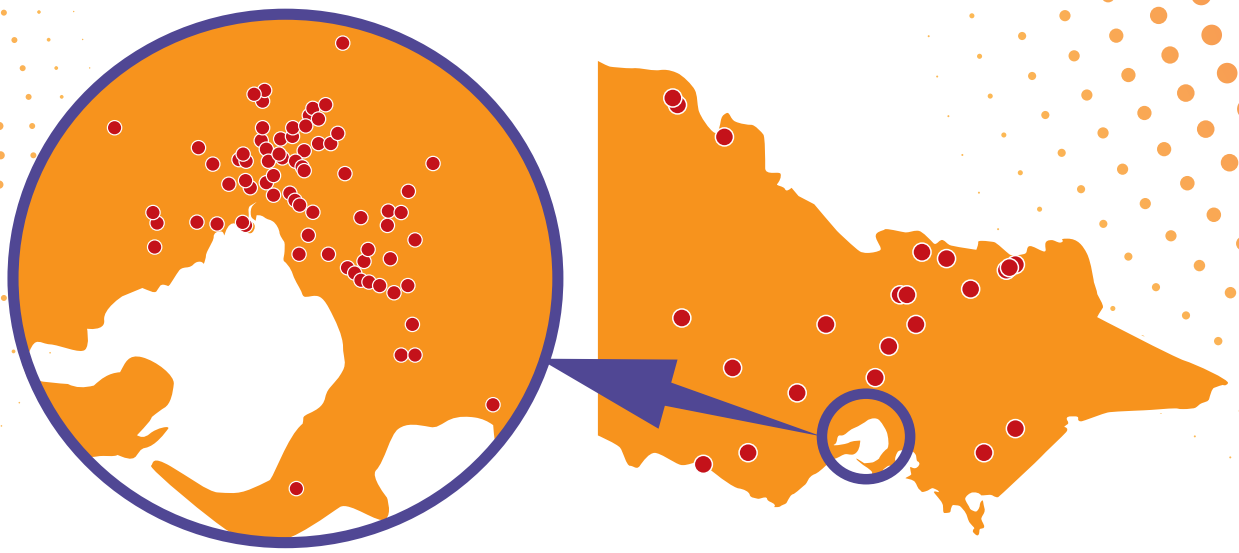
Universities increase:

- 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



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