

smartnz  
**SSEP**<sup>®</sup>

Secondary School Employer Partnerships



## What is SSEP?

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- **3-year formal relationships** between secondary schools and local employers
- Employers work with teachers to create contextualised learning opportunities with Year 9/10 students
- Employers come into the classroom and students go on workplace visits, to see classroom learning applied in action and introducing students to a wide range of careers



## SSEP goals

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- Improve student achievement, retention and transition
- Answers: “why am I learning this subject?”
- Ensure students make solid subject choices
- Introduce students to key industries in our region
- Encourage young people to stay in region

## What is SSEP?

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- Framework adapted to fit each school's kaupapa, curriculum and local industries
- Focus is on key subject areas important to critical industries, but also exposes students to a wide range of career opportunities
- SSEP is for ALL students
- 3 year commitment for programme success and sustainability



## Teacher time

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Time involvement for teachers:

- 1 x after school meeting with employers
- Teacher workplace visits and activity planning (x 3)
- EOTC preparation
- 1 hour focus group/celebration at end of year

*Note: From year 2 onwards much of the planning is done as it's generally a repeat of the previous year's activities.*

*When well planned, SSEP activities work to enhance what you are teaching, not be an extra add-on*

## Cost to being involved?

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**Schools:** Transport and relief staff (where needed)

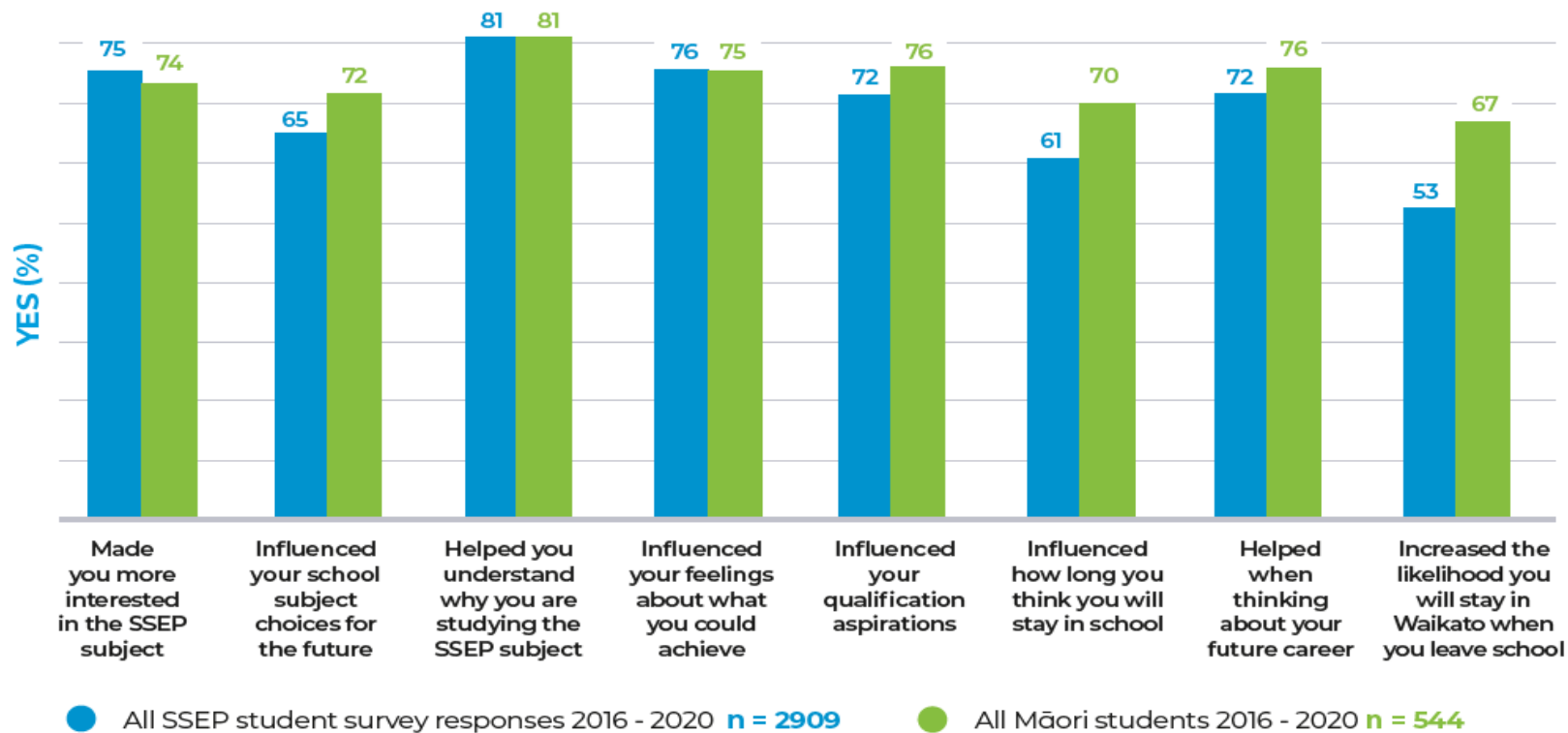
**Employers:** Volunteer time (approx. 16 hours per year)



# SSEP impact

## SSEP student survey results 2016 - 2020

Percentage of Year 9 and 10 students that answered 'YES' to:  
**Has the experience of having business people in your school and going out into to their workplace...**



# SSEP impact

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Since SSEP was introduced at Fairfield College, students have elected to take 'harder' maths in their senior years. There has been a:



**70% increase in students selecting 'Academic' Maths at Year 12**

**90% increase in students taking Calculus at Year 13**

*Compared to the pre-SSEP cohort...*

Fairfield College students' actual rate of completion:



**increased by 40% for Year 12**  
**increased by 32% for Year 13**

Fairfield College students' continued selection of the SSEP subject (Maths) has:



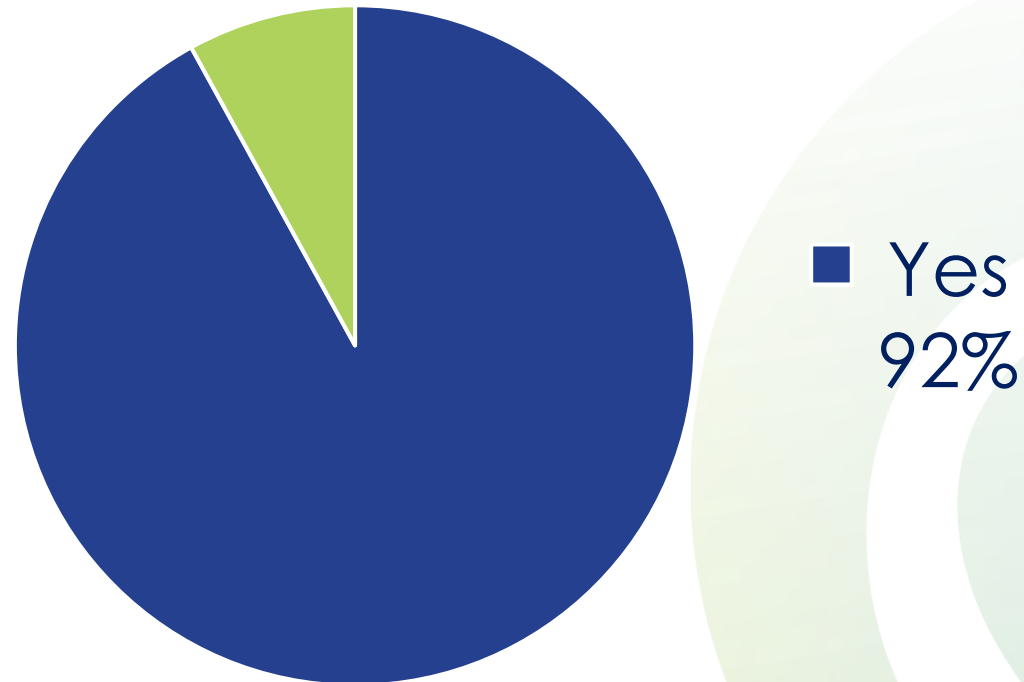
**increased by 18% in Year 12**  
**increased by 9% in Year 13**



# Teacher feedback

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## Positive Impact on Professional Development (Teachers)



# Employer benefits

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**65%**

*of employer respondents had had no previous contact with the school they partnered with*

- ✓ Opportunity to showcase business and industry to young people
- ✓ Excellent PD for young staff
- ✓ Genuine way to 'give back' to the community



## SSEP Process

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- Teachers and Employers
  - co-design activities
  - identify curriculum areas you would like to focus on
  - remember employers are volunteers, not providers, so will need your expertise and guidance to make sure there is a good fit with your teaching plan
  - we recommend you make a time to meet with your employer partners at their workplace to plan out activities and see for yourself what they do and how it fits with your teaching



## How SSEP works

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General rule of thumb:

- 3 employers/class (1 employer per term)
- Each employer sees a class 3 times – at least once is a workplace/site visit over the course of the year

*(n.b. Most employers see 2-3 classes)*



## SSEP in practice

Term 1-2	Term 2-3	Term 3-4
<p><i>1 x group planning meeting</i></p> <p><b><u>Topic 1</u></b></p> <p><i>Teacher workplace visits and planning</i></p> <p><b>3 points of contact Employer 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>2x in-class visits</i></li><li>• <i>1x workplace visit</i></li></ul>	<p><b><u>Topic 2</u></b></p> <p><i>Teacher workplace visits and planning</i></p> <p><b>3 points of contact Employer 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>2x in-class visits</i></li><li>• <i>1x workplace visit</i></li></ul>	<p><b><u>Topic 3</u></b></p> <p><i>Teacher workplace visits and planning</i></p> <p><b>3 points of contact Employer 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>2x in-class visits</i></li><li>• <i>1x workplace visit</i></li></ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Evaluation surveys</b></li><li>• <b>Focus group &amp; planning for next year</b></li></ul>

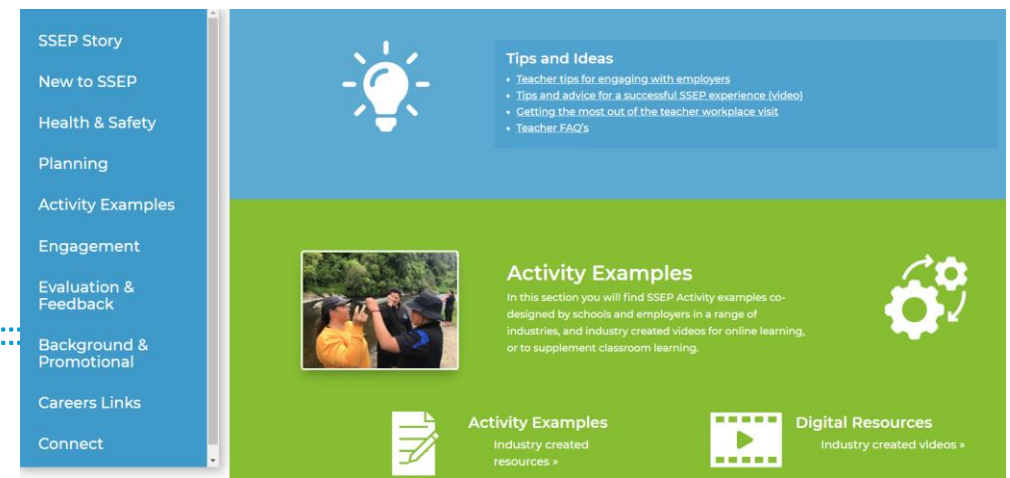
## SSEP Facilitators

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- Your school has a dedicated SSEP Facilitator to help support your partnerships
- If you have any issues or questions please get in touch
- Each term your SSEP Facilitator reports SSEP progress to your school Board – please keep your Facilitator in the loop with your activities and send photos of activities to include in reports
- At the end of the year teachers, students and employers complete an online SSEP survey for evaluation. Please get your students to complete this at the end of the year

# SSEP Resource Centre

[www.smartnz.nz](http://www.smartnz.nz)



- The SSEP Resource Centre is here to help you get the most out of SSEP and fast-track your success.
- Resources are organised according to what stage of the process you are at and includes planning templates, EOTC, activity examples, videos, tips, guidelines and support
- Introduce your students to SSEP by playing the SSEP for Students video (Engagement/Video sections)
- Communication and forward planning with your employer partners is key to success.
- Evidence shows the biggest impact is made when there is 3 points of contact with each employer – an introduction session in class, a workplace visit and a follow up in class activity.
- If you need any help or support any time please contact us through the SSEP Helpdesk

# We hope this is the beginning of some rewarding and enjoyable partnerships for you and your students!

