

**Smart Waikato’s Secondary School Employer Partnerships (SSEP)**

2018 was the third year of Smart Waikato’s Secondary School Employer Partnerships (SSEP).

SSEP sees employers from a range of sectors interconnecting with school faculties to contextualise learning for Year 9 and 10 students and introduces them to a wide range of careers.

**2018 Participants**

In 2018 22 Waikato secondary schools, 110 teachers, 140 employers and 2300 students participated in SSEP. 46 % of student participants identified as being Māori.

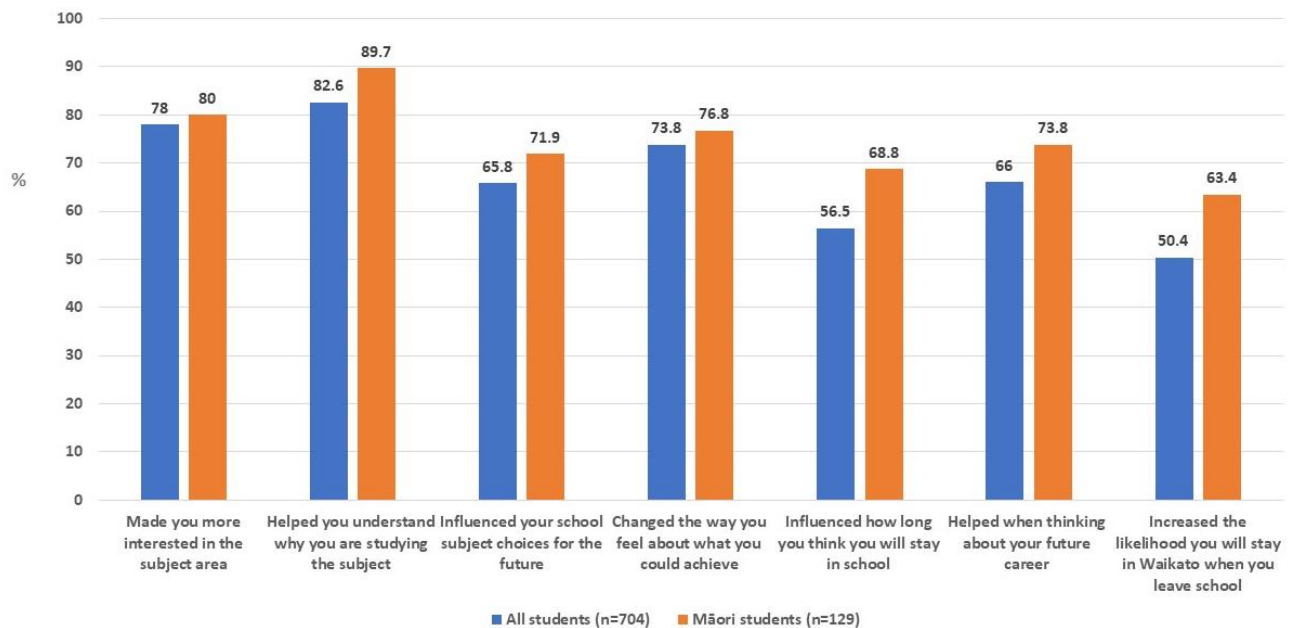
704 students from 18 participating schools responded to the SSEP student survey. 50.4% of respondents were female and 49.6% percent male. Ethnic breakdown was NZ European/Pākeha (57.2%), Māori (18.3%), Asian (7.7%), Pasifika (3.4%), European (3.4%), Other (10%).

**Impact on students**

Supporting previous years’ data the 2018 student survey showed SSEP is continuing to have a “positive and profound” effect on secondary school students throughout Waikato.

When separating out Māori student data we found the impact of SSEP was even more pronounced on this group.

**2018 SSEP student survey results. Percentage of Year 9 and 10 students that answered ‘yes’ to: Has the experience of having business people in your classroom and going out to workplaces...**



## 2018-19 SSEP Report



Huntly College students and teachers experiencing 'real world' maths and science at Mercury and Waikato Milking Systems

***"It was fascinating to learn about the different careers and it also helped me broaden my scale of job choices. It inspired me to think more about what I would like to do."*** (Huntly College student)

***"I liked meeting people who use what we learn in class on a daily basis in their careers because it helped me find a purpose for what we are learning."*** (Waikato Diocesan School for Girls student)



Waikato Diocesan School for Girls experiencing science and technology through Contact Energy, CRV Ambreed and Boffa Miskell

### Impact on teachers

Many schools are changing the way they deliver curriculum toward cross-curricular or project-based learning. SSEP schools such as Huntly College, Waikato Diocesan and Hillcrest High School have started engaging with their employer partners to co-design learning modules.

***"SSEP has empowered teachers and encouraged them to consider local industry needs when they developed curriculum."*** (Sharon Moller, Huntly College Deputy Principal)



Teachers and employers collaborate to create contextual learning opportunities for students

## Secondary School Employer Partnerships 2018-19 SSEP Report

### Impact on schools

Schools are describing SSEP as creating “transformational change” in the way they are approaching learning.

*“From a board perspective we’re all very much in favour of SSEP. The students are coming back enthusiastic about learning because they can see its relevance. SSEP also fits in with the school’s strategy of getting our kids ready for life outside the school gate. This is more how we would like to see things from an educational perspective.” (Cambridge High School Board of Trustees Chairman Karl Thornton)*

The image displays a grid of logos for various employers at different schools. The logos are organized into columns and rows, each representing a different school and its associated employers. The schools listed include Cambridge High School (Science), Huntly College (Maths and Science), Thames High School (Business), Fairfield College (Maths), Matamata College (Maths), Te Kauhata College (Food Technology and Science), Morrinsville College (Science), Ngardawahia High School (Maths and Science), Otiorohanga College (Maths), Piopio College (Maths, Science and Technology), Putaruru College (Science and Technology), Rototuna Junior High School (Maths and Business), and Hillcrest High School (Science). The logos represent a wide range of industries and services, such as agriculture (Fonterra, Waikato Dairy Farm), construction (Deloitte, Foster), retail (Mercury, Beca), and education (Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council).

as at January 2019



For more on SSEP see:  
[www.smartwaikato.co.nz](http://www.smartwaikato.co.nz)

## 2018-19 SSEP Report

### National Award

In October 2018 Smart Waikato Trust won the Economic Development New Zealand (EDNZ) award for Best Practice in Collaboration with Business, Iwi and Community for Secondary School Employer Partnerships (SSEP).



### SSEP 2019

In 2019 an additional 7 schools will be onboarded into the programme.

Informed by two design thinking sessions held with over 30 educators and employers, Smart Waikato is developing an SSEP Resource Centre to support programme sustainability and build capability within partnerships.

The digital SSEP Resource Centre will be available online housing templates, examples, 'how to' guides and resources. Smart Waikato will also provide an SSEP 'helpdesk' service and continue to monitor and evaluate the programme.

SmartWaikato

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**SSEP Helpdesk**  
 for schools and employers.

Email us [here](#) or call/text 027 608 2686.



Many thanks to SSEP supporters:

