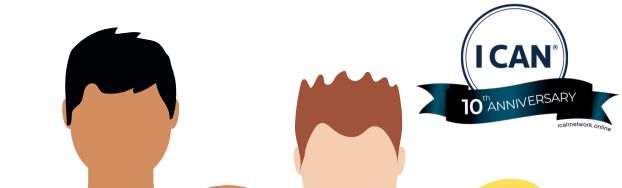
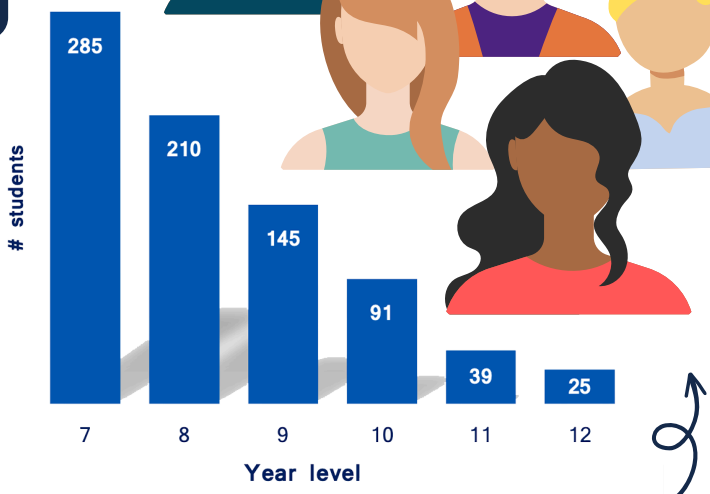
SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT 2023



I CAN SCHOOL®

I CAN is continuing to produce positive results in its I CAN School mentoring programs across different secondary schools. Not only have the programs achieved a 91% satisfaction rating among secondary school students, but they have also achieved positive changes in students' social interaction and sense of self.

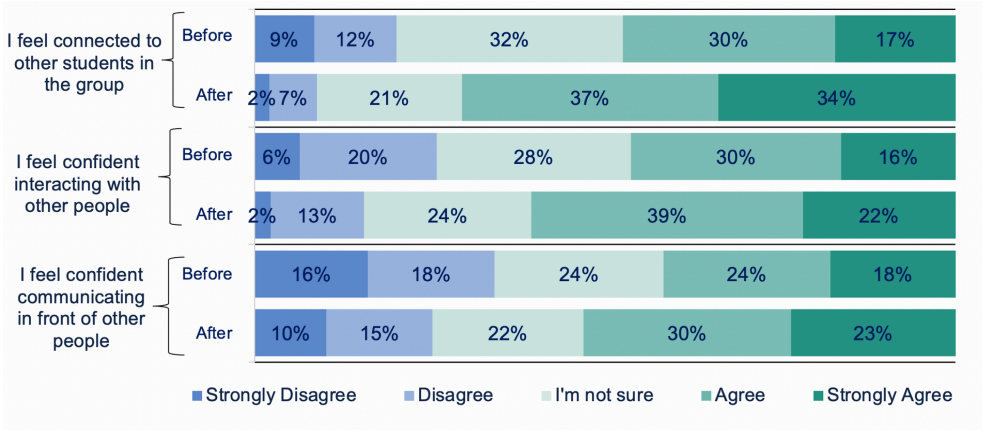


Most secondary school students attending our mentoring programs are in years 7 to 9 compared to those in years 10 to 12.

Our high school mentoring programs made the biggest impact on students' interactions with other people, with a:

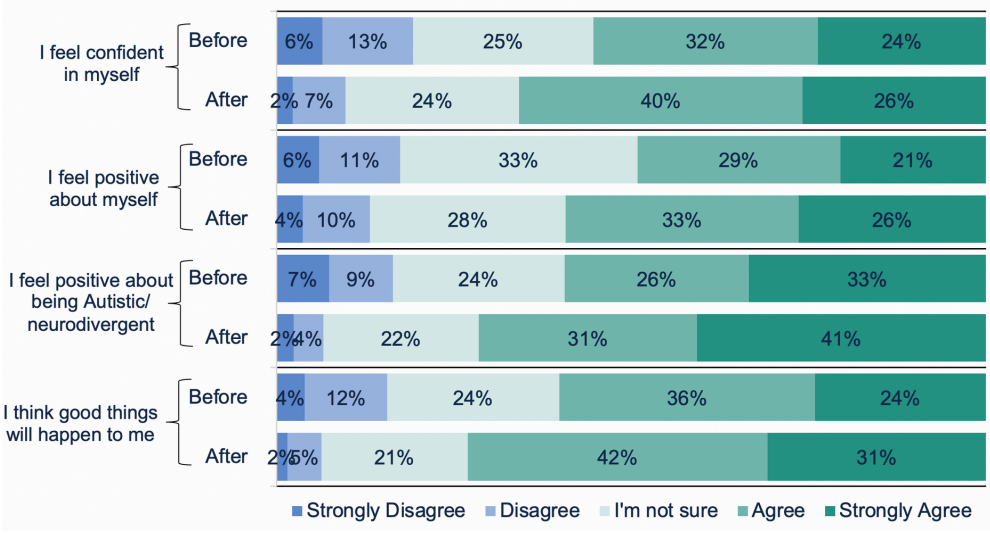
- **24%** increase in social connection;
- **15%** increase in communication skills; and
- **11%** increase in public speaking skills.

CHANGES IN SOCIAL INTERACTION AMONG STUDENTS



N=526-529 for before and N=516-519 for after, pooled from 73 programs

CHANGES IN SELF AMONG STUDENTS



N=500-532 for before and N=501-523 for after, pooled from 73 programs

Our program also led to changes in how students view themselves, with a:

- **10%** increase in self-confidence;
- **9%** increase in mental wellbeing;
- **13%** increase in Autistic pride; and
- **13%** increase in optimism.

These results provide an evidence base behind I CAN School mentoring programs making an impact to autistic students. This evidence base has contributed to I CAN Network acquiring funding from the Victorian Government and other funders to expand the I CAN School mentoring programs across Victoria.

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