



# **World of Work Impact Report**

**SAP & St. Farnans**

**2023 / 2024**

## World of Work Programme Aims

- To give students an insight into the world of work and peoples jobs.
- To encourage students to recognise the value of completing their education.
- To assist student skill development and understanding the soft skills most valued in the workplace.

## A word of thanks...

On behalf of Business in the Community Ireland I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to **SAP** for your instrumental role in bringing the World of Work programme to life for 2nd year students at **St Farnan's Secondary School**. Since the world of work programme began in 2020, students have benefited from this programme gaining crucial insights into future career opportunities and developing essential soft skills. In this special year, we have celebrated our 10-year anniversary of working in partnership together and overall to date over **318** students have benefited since we commenced working together in 2014.

The success of this initiative is owed to the exceptional dedication and unwavering support of volunteers from **SAP** and **St Farnan's**. Such a substantial commitment of volunteer time speaks volumes about your corporate and educational ethos.

A special acknowledgment goes to the diligent coordinators **Tosin Omiyale** and **Tanya Flanagan**. Your tireless efforts ensured that students not only participated but truly thrived in this experience.

Working together with you all has been a pleasure. As we reflect on the achievements thus far, we are excited about the ongoing impact our partnership will have on shaping the aspirations of future generations.

Here's to the ongoing success of our collaboration and the meaningful impact it will continue to have on the lives of young minds.

**Jo Sayers**  
Business in the Community

## WOW highlights for SAP Ireland in 2023/24

Student engagement and participation throughout the programme was rated as **Excellent**.

- *The students actively participated in each module and activities. They showed good interest and commitment*

The company rated each of the sessions as:

- Introduction Session: **Excellent**
  - Introduction to Sustainability: **Excellent**
  - Workplace Visit: **Excellent**
  - Day in the Life: **Excellent**
  - Soft Skills (*Teamwork*): **Excellent**
  - Wrap/Reflective Learning: **Excellent**
- *Each session was a learning and knowledge transfer opportunity. Working with St Farnan's coordinator and the students was encouraging*

The main benefits for employees were:

- a feel-good factor and enjoyed the volunteering experience
  - an opportunity to be involved in a project outside of normal work duties
  - being able to make a difference in a young person's life.
- *Gave employees an opportunity to reflect on the work and mission of SAP and to pass on knowledge of experience and skills to encourage younger ones.*

The benefits for the company were:

- contributes to our corporate responsibility strategy
- making a contribution to the local community.
- opportunity for enhanced employee engagement
- making a positive social impact on education

The service provided by BITC was rated **Excellent**.

- *It was my first time coordinating the project on behalf of SAP. Jo Sayers was very supportive and passed on relevant information of previous sessions, background of the school, objectives of the programme to me, which I found very helpful. Her communication was excellent throughout the school sessions.*

The partnership and communication between the school and company was rated **Excellent**.

- *Tanya was very welcoming, supportive and helpful. The WRAP session / 10 year celebration was so beautifully organised.*

SAP Ireland would recommend the programme to other companies.

The company did not participate in the 'Yes Campaign' sustainability activity this year.

## What the company said...



*The CEO of SAP Ireland is committed to the partnership with the school.*

## WOW highlights for St. Farnan's Post Primary in 2023/24

The company's preparation and presentation throughout the programme was rated **Excellent**.

- *Tosin was superb to work with.*

The relevance of the material delivered was **Excellent**.

- *Excellent and age appropriate.*

The insight the company gave the students into their business/industry was **Excellent**.

- *All members of SAP were very generous with their time and insights.*

The session that benefitted the students the most was **Workplace Visit**.

- *As always, actually getting in to visit the SAP company headquarters was a truly inspirational day out for our students.*

The main benefits of the programme for the students include:

- Increased self-confidence **Strongly Agree**
- Improved presentation/teamwork skills **Strongly Agree**
- Helped students to think about the world of work and life after school. **Strongly Agree**
- Presented student with a variety of jobs. **Agree**
- Gave the students an insight into sustainability. **Strongly Agree**

Participation in the WoW programme has notably contributed to better engagement with students.

- *It is always a very positive programme to be involved in and the students really rose to the challenges and engaged very well.*

The partnership and communication between the school and BITC was **Excellent**.

- *Jo is always there for support and assistance when needed.*

The partnership and communication between the school and company was **Excellent**.

- *Celebrating 10 years of exceptional partnership, collegiality and support this year!*



St. Farnan's Post Primary would recommend the programme to other schools.  
The school did not participate in the 'Yes Campaign' sustainability activity this year.

## WOW highlights for Students in 2023/24

**90%** of the students rated the programme as very enjoyable or enjoyable.

- *I thought it was fun and wanting to be an engineer it was interesting*
- *The World of Work programme was very enjoyable with its workshops and trip to SAP in CityWest.*
- *I found it very interesting and helpful. This was also a new experience for me*
- *Very entertaining*
- *It was a fun and valuable experience*
- *Very good*
- *I loved the sap office it was very nice*
- *I thought it was very interesting*
- *it was interesting*

The most enjoyable and beneficial sessions for students were **Workplace Visit/Day in the Life**, followed by **Teamwork** and **WRAP**.

- *Because we were treated exceptionally and the people we met were very kind also the offices were cool*
- *The workplace visit was very fun and exciting. It helped me understand what SAP really did and how fun it could be to work in an office.*
- *This gave me more of a visual representation of S.A.P Ireland and I would look forward to hopefully getting a job there in years to come*
- *It was the best part of the Program*
- *the activities were fun and it was interesting to see where the employees work*
- *Very cool work place*
- *I loved the office and it's quite interesting how it doesn't feel like a normal working office*
- *It was enjoyable to visit the workplace*
- *it provided an insight into the workplace and was the most fun for me*
- *Good to figure out what I want to do when I'm older*
- *The only thing I didn't enjoy was some of the students from our year making it less fun*
- *The sessions were a great experience and it was fun*
- *I really enjoyed the visit to the SAP building*

The students did not participate in the 'Yes Campaign' sustainability activity this year but did have a session on sustainability.

- *Starting off I didn't really believe this programme was helpful but when we began to do workshops and a talk about sustainability, which I'm really interested in. It was very fun and interesting learning about the world of Work programme and was joy to be a part of.*

Feedback from the students on how the programme supported them most is as follows:

- Gained a better understanding of the world of work - **90%**
- Improved soft skills – *our session was Teamwork* - **80%**
- Improved focus about life after school - **80%**
- Increased self-confidence - **70%**
- Gained a better understanding of sustainability - **60%**

**60%** of students said that participation in the programme changed the way they think about school, while **40%** said that it did not.

- *I already knew how school was important to me and my future but the World of Work programme helped me understand school was really important and to study for future exams so I can succeed in life.*
- *It has given me more self confidence and now I take part in a lot more activities and I feel this has improved my learning skills*
- *I already liked school*
- *I was already trying my hardest in school*

**100%** of students would recommend the WoW programme to other students

- *It was enjoyable and I thought I might want to be an engineer more*
- *Yes, I would recommend students to apply for the World of Work programme because it is fun and helpful for the future.*
- *It might help your confidence and improve learning skills*
- *I can help*



- *it's a great experience and you might figure out what you want to do in your future*
- *It's a great programme*
- *It's fun and helps you to decide what you want in the future*
- *The world of work programme is very interesting and shows you a sustainable way of living*

and they had some recommendations for next year's programme.



## WOW recommendations made in 2023/24

### For next year's programme...

#### SAP Recommends

- *Involving local newspapers for publicity*
- *Gather feedback or evidence of how the program has benefited students who have participated in last 10 years.*

#### School Recommends

- *I still do think that this partnership would be most beneficial for students in Senior Cycle - ideally TY or 5th year.*

#### Students' Recommend

- *Many more time of each workshop*
- *I feel as if you could've included the students a bit more in activities and not really letting the students just sit around and listen.*
- *I think it is it's full potential and I couldn't think of any ways to improve*
- *the sessions could be a little but longer because we didn't get to finish some of them*
- *More visits to the office*
- *I wouldn't change anything*
- *Better food at workplace visit!*

### And finally...

- *Thanks for everything I couldn't imagine what I would have done without this program!*





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