Copleston High School

Student Voice: The Impact of Work Experience

Student feedback demonstrates the significant impact that work experience has on confidence, skills development and future aspirations.

97% of students said their placement gave them a better understanding of the workplace, while **82% reported increased confidence** and **86% developed new skills during their placement**. Students also reported stronger communication skills, and a clearer understanding of what employers look for in the workplace.

Importantly, work experience is helping students think about their futures, with **85% of students agreeing that their placement helped them consider future careers**.

Key Student Outcomes

- **97%** gained a better understanding of the workplace.
- **86%** developed new skills.
- **85%** said the placement helped them think about future careers.
- **82%** reported improved confidence.
- **75%** improved their communication skills.
- **69%** gained a better understanding of what employers are looking for.

Students were also asked whether their placement had changed their career aspirations. While **16% said yes**, a further **39% said maybe**, suggesting that work experience is prompting many young people to reflect on and explore future career possibilities.

From developing new skills and improving communication to understanding employer expectations and exploring career pathways, work experience is equipping our students with the confidence and knowledge needed for their next steps.