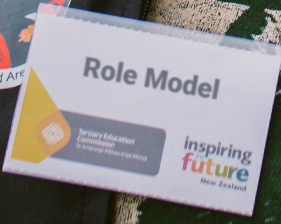


Step-by-step guide to being a role model at **Inspiring the Future** online events





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Why Inspiring the Future?

We know from research in Aotearoa that young people often have narrow ideas about their future. In a survey of over 7,700 young people, more than half saw themselves in one of just nine jobs. Less than 1% knew about their preferred role from a volunteer from the world of work engaging with their school.

That's why, no matter what your job is or the journey you took to get there, you can be a role model for young people by volunteering alongside others at an Inspiring the Future event.

How Inspiring the Future works

- Sign up at inspiringthefuture.org.nz
- Complete your profile online and do a criminal record check.
- Schools read your profile and send two invitations – one for a pre-event meeting and one for the main event.

Attend the pre-event meeting

The pre-event meeting is an opportunity to meet the teacher running the event and the other role models, and to ask questions.

Attend the event

Event structure

Welcome.

Teachers welcome you and outline how the event is going to run.

Investigation session.

Groups of students take it in turns to meet you. Students ask you questions to discover and investigate the job you do and learn more about your role and the pathway you took to get there.

The pitch.

You share a brief summary of your story with all the students – the job you do, the pathway you took to get there and challenges you faced along the way.

Show and tell.

Students decide if they would like to learn more about your job. You'll then have 6 minutes in a breakout session to talk about your job and perhaps share your screen or provide a virtual workplace tour, show the students projects you're working on or what equipment you use.

How much time do I need to commit?

- Allow 1 hour to prepare for the event (see the planning section below).
- Allow 30 minutes for the online pre-event meeting.
- The invitation from the school will confirm the timing and length of the main event.

Preparing for the event

Planning

- Prepare a short 1-2 minute talk about your story to share at the pitch.
- Think about the information you could share during show and tell so students can learn more about the work you do. You could also share your screen or do a virtual workplace tour, or show students projects you're working on or equipment you use for your job.
- There'll be opportunities for discussion throughout the event, particularly during the investigation session and show and tell. Think about what to say in advance. Consider making notes to refer to.

TIP: If you want to do a virtual workplace tour make sure you use a mobile device such as a laptop. Also tell the people you work with this may be happening.

Check your event invitations

Your event invitations from the school will include:

- details on how to get online for the pre-event meeting and main event
- the pre-event meeting date and timing
- the main event date and timing
- other important details to help you prepare, such as the age of the students and what the school hopes they will learn.

Technical set up

- Use a headset and microphone if you have them, to reduce background noise.
- Sign up or sign in to the school's chosen online video meeting platform.
- Familiarise yourself with its functionality, such as how to share your screen.

The pre-event meeting

Attending the pre-event meeting is essential for the success of the main event.

It's a great opportunity to:

- meet and get more information from the teacher
- meet the other role models
- decide who will thank the school on behalf of the role models at the end of the event
- ask any questions you may have
- test that your device audio and visuals work
- practice screen sharing (if you intend to do this).

The teacher may:

- outline how the event will work
- ask what you plan to say and share during the event, including during show and tell
- share information about the school's values and culture
- assign a number to each role model
- practice using the online video meeting platform, including the breakout session functionality.

TIP: The school will let you know in the event invitation or pre-event meeting if you need to do a mihi, pepeha or sing waiata. Read our cultural competency guide for support on how to do that.

What to do on the day of the event

Technical guidelines

Before the event

Set up your equipment

- Think about how you're joining the event. For example, if you're on a laptop think about propping it up, and make sure your face is well-lit.
- Print out your role model number and place where the students can see it.
- Test that your audio and video work and make sure your device is charged or plugged in.
- Close unnecessary tabs in your browser and turn off notifications such as email or messaging.

Join the event 15 minutes ahead of time so you can sort out any technical issues.

During the event

General guidance

- If you aren't talking, mute or turn off your microphone.
- Avoid noisy activities like typing while your microphone is on.
- Use gestures and mannerisms you would typically use and just be yourself.

The event

Welcome (5-10 minutes)

The school will welcome all the role models and students to the event and outline how the event will run.

Investigation session (8 minutes per student group – you will meet with 2 to 4 groups)

- All role models will get a number and be sent to the same numbered device for a breakout investigation session.
- A group of students will join you for a breakout investigation session. They'll spend 2-3 minutes asking questions and trying to guess what job you do.
- If they haven't guessed correctly after a couple of minutes, reveal your job and invite them to ask you more questions about the pathway you took to get into your job.

After 8 minutes, a new group of students will join you. Repeat steps 2 and 3 above.

TIP: Students will have prepared questions to ask you, but be ready to lead a discussion about your pathway into your job and what you've learned along the way.

The pitch

Finding out about the options (1-2 minutes each role model)

A teacher will bring all role models and students back together from the breakout investigation sessions. A teacher will prompt you to say your role model number, your name and your job. You then have 1-2 minutes to give a short talk about your job, the pathway you took to get there and any challenges you faced. This is your opportunity to share your story with the wider group as the students may not have met every role model.

The pitch (continued)

Deciding which option (5 minutes)

A teacher will send you back to a breakout session while the students decide which job they want to learn more about during show and tell.

TIP: While the students decide, you could take a short break or spend a couple of few minutes reminding yourself what to say and share in show and tell.

Example of what to say in the pitch



Talofa lava. My name's Dwayne and I'm a web designer.

I come from a traditional Samoan family. My parents believed in the church and in education. They wanted us to be the best we could be. They moved to New Zealand to give us a better life.

After secondary school, I wasn't sure what to do next. For a while I felt lost, not knowing my place in the world. I ended up working for a real estate business, taking photos of houses for sale and putting them onto a website. That's when I became interested in how websites work, so I went to university and studied web design.

Now I'm working for a cool company that makes websites and videos for all sorts of different people, from e-bike shops to musicians!

Show and tell (6 minutes)

In their new groups the students move to a breakout session with the role model whose job they want to learn more about. (If the students don't choose your job you'll be asked to join and support another role model's group.)

You'll then have 6 minutes to show and tell – this is an opportunity for students to learn more about your work and what it's all about, why your job exists, what a day on the job looks like, and so on.

You could also share your screen, provide a virtual workplace tour or show students projects you're working on, or equipment you use for your job.

Highlights (5-10 minutes)

A teacher will bring all role models and students back together from their breakout sessions. The students may ask further questions and will share their highlights. Role models will also be asked to share their highlights and thoughts about the event.

A nominated role model will thank the school and students on behalf of all the role models.

Farewell

The school will farewell you and close the event.

Advice and support

If you have any questions about the particular event you're attending you should contact the school.

For any other questions, contact the team behind Inspiring the Future at the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC).

Email inspiringthefuture@tec.govt.nz

Phone **0800 601 301**



**Tertiary Education
Commission**

Te Amorangi Mātauranga Matua

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