



Springboard Trust

Volunteer Opportunities



SPRINGBOARDTRUST



Volunteer Opportunities

Make a difference for New Zealand schools

Volunteers are the backbone of Springboard Trust’s work. Through our unique cross-sector model, volunteers from all walks of life partner with school leaders to further their development. They create trusting, rewarding relationships, supporting the school leader while also honing their own coaching and leadership skills. It’s work strongly aligned with the te ao Māori concept of ako, in which both teacher and student learn from one another.

With a wide range of volunteer opportunities available, we are excited to offer a rewarding, impactful way for individuals and organisations to give back to schools and communities.

How volunteering with Springboard works

Every school leader’s situation is unique – we work with people in central metropolitan areas as well as remote rural communities.

When volunteers express their interest in working with us, we make sure to take on board their preferences, needs and skill set, so both they and the school leader/s they work with can bring out the best in one another. We do this via a carefully crafted matching process, designed to support both volunteer and school leader to enhance their own skills.

As a result, many volunteers who give their time to Springboard Trust don’t just support school leaders through a programme – they create a lasting relationship that extends well beyond the end of the work with us.

Our programmes are also facilitated by top level business executives, therefore every programme, workshop and interaction with a school leader brings a unique opportunity to develop and hone their skills.



I haven’t just met a great volunteer who can challenge me where needed - I’ve made a friend for life.



Capacity Partners Strategic Leadership for Principals Programme

Develop a principal’s strategic planning and leadership skills.

- Time required: 40 hrs (approx) over 10 months
- In-person, virtual or blended delivery
- Runs February-November

Working in our flagship Strategic Leadership for Principals Programme, volunteer Capacity Partners support the beginning of a principal’s leadership journey.

Each volunteer is matched with a primary or secondary principal, and works with them to create a strategic plan for the principal’s school.

Your pairing will be one of up to six in a ‘cohort’ facilitated by a senior business leader. Attending the workshop sessions which cover the core tenets of strategic planning provides fantastic opportunities to connect with, teach and learn from others in a group setting.

Volunteers meet with their principal monthly to support the application of the workshop learning to their individual school context, while challenging and supporting them on their path to better leadership.

Capacity Partners grow their own leadership by using their skills and forming a close relationship with both the principal and their school.



Facilitators (Full-Year) Strategic Leadership for Principals Programme

Develop and care for a full cohort of principals and volunteers, delivering a unique learning experience.

- Time commitment: 50-60 hours
- In-person, virtual or blended delivery
- A series of modules and debriefing sessions with volunteers and principals
- Runs February-November

The full-year facilitator role works in the Strategic Leadership for Principals Programme, curating the development experience for a cohort of up to six principal-volunteer pairings.

Facilitators deliver a series of modules, sharing their own leadership experiences to bring the content to life. Volunteers hone their own group management and strategic leadership skills, building strong relationships with the Springboard team, volunteers and principals alike.

This is a fantastic opportunity for those who have worked as volunteers with Springboard before, taking their leadership skills to the next level.



Schools are at the heart of communities. And if you want to give back to your community, Springboard is the perfect place to do that.



Impact Coaches

Strategic Leadership for Rural Teaching Principals

Develop a rural principal's leadership.

- Time commitment: Approx 40 hours over 10 months
- Support a principal between workshops, and attend a one-day session at course end
- Runs February-November

Impact Coaches work in the Strategic Leadership for Rural Teaching Principals Programme - a unique programme piloted in 2020.

Impact Coaches support principals in rural New Zealand, who also play a critical role as both teacher and fulcrum of their community.

As with Capacity Partners, Impact Coaches are matched with a principal and form part of a cohort, developing the principal's strategic leadership capability, and identifying and enhancing their strengths. Volunteers partner with a principal over a school year, coaching, challenging and cultivating them as leaders of unique school environments.

This is one-of-a-kind programming in New Zealand, and offers volunteers a very special opportunity to make a difference in communities often overlooked for support.



The cohort I've been working with - it's been like a beacon of hope, of people coming together who are experiencing similar challenges.



Facilitators (One-term)

High Performing Leadership Teams

Bring programme content to life.

- Time commitment: 16 hours over 12 weeks
- Three four-hour workshops
- Runs in terms 1, 2 and 3

Facilitation is a key element of Springboard Trust's work. Facilitators bring the course content to life, add their own experiences and expertise to the programmes and create a safe and supportive environment in which all participants can thrive.

Typically senior or middle leaders in their organisations (and ideally having had some experience with Springboard before), one-term facilitators work in our High Performing Leadership Teams programme.

They facilitate a group of leaders from a single school, helping them bring their best to their unique school context. In turn, facilitators get fantastic development of their own group management and leadership capabilities.



Coaches

Springboard Coaching for Leadership

Develop school leaders as both individuals and part of a team.

- Time commitment: 10 hours
- Ongoing support and coaching for leadership development
- Runs in terms 1, 2 and 3

Volunteer coaches work within the Springboard Coaching for Leadership programme, partnering with a principal or senior school leader to help them understand their individual strengths and development opportunities.

Over the course of a school term, volunteers will help a school leader reflect on and connect with their strengths, as well as work through a comprehensive 360-degree feedback process that involves up to 15 people who work with the school leader.

Confidential, high-trust relationships are developed in which volunteers forge deep connections with school leaders and foster positive leadership practices.



Subject Matter Experts

General

Making a difference in schools, one leadership project at a time.

- Time commitment: 1+ hours
- Bespoke support and development
- Runs as per school needs

As Subject Matter Experts, volunteers have bespoke opportunities to work with Springboard, with shorter and more flexible time commitments than our other roles.

Opportunities may include running a workshop for multiple leadership teams, or providing a short webinar for one of our foundation programmes.

Alternatively, volunteers might act in a consultant capacity to help a school with a one-off project that falls outside our usual scope of work, for example through our School Innovation Services.



It was incredibly powerful and I was so proud of the principal - helping them reach a place of growth and honesty is a real privilege



Workshop Facilitator

Skills Workshops

Lend your expertise to Aotearoa school leaders

- Time commitment: 5-10 hours over 1-2 sessions (including prep)
- Lead subject-specific workshops for school leaders and their teams
- Run throughout the year, in-person or online

Workshop Facilitators take the lead on our Coaching for Results and Leading Change workshops, delivering tailored learning to small groups of principals or their teams.

Workshops typically consist of no more than 10 leaders, and can be delivered either in-person or online. Facilitators deliver the course materials, providing your own unique insight on the workshop, and in some cases host a follow-up debrief session to help those leaders practice their skills.

Ready to make a difference?

No matter when or where you want to give your time, or how much time you have - there is an opportunity for you to make a difference through Springboard Trust.

Schools and their leaders play one of the most important roles in our society, shaping the future of all our young people.

Supporting those leaders to deliver the best environment and outcomes possible for their students is a special piece of work, and we're honoured to have had more than 500 volunteers to date give their time to it.

If you'd like to join us, or register your interest in working with us again - please get in touch with our Volunteer Manager:

Rebecca Brown

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Our Partners

Springboard Trust would like to acknowledge our partners. Their ongoing support enables the Trust to deliver high-calibre and impactful programmes to New Zealand schools.

Strategic partners



Major partners



Supporting partners





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