

In2scienceUK | Programme Summary

2023



Improving Social Mobility and Diversity in STEM



Our Mission

The In2science summer programme provides Year 12 students from disadvantaged and low-income backgrounds with the support, skills and experience needed to achieve their potential and progress to degrees, apprenticeships and careers in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

The young people we support are interested in pursuing STEM, but face barriers to their progression. These include a limited understanding of the careers available within the sector, a lack of friend and family connections to advise them and help them to access opportunities such as work experience, and inadequate support to produce successful applications for apprenticeships or degrees.

Our programme connects students to volunteers from different fields within STEM over the summer between Year 12 and Year 13, the time when they are finalising their decisions about university or apprenticeships. Students receive insights and knowledge through in-person work experience and live online workshops. The In2scienceUK team works closely with its volunteers to develop and deliver engaging sessions. This support enables students of all backgrounds and abilities to build the skills, knowledge and confidence to produce successful applications and achieve their ambitions within STEM.

In2science summer programme students

Student Eligibility

Our programme is free for students to participate in, and they also receive a bursary to cover their expenses. Students are required to fill out an application form, from which we shortlist them. To be eligible for a place participants must meet the following criteria:

- Attend a non-fee paying state-maintained school
- Be 16 or over and a current Year 12 student or equivalent
- Must be studying at least one STEM-related A-Level, BTEC or equivalent

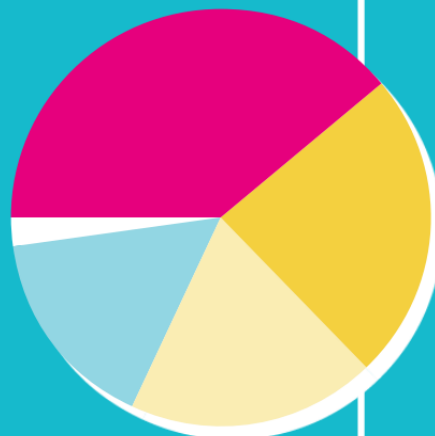
In addition, students must also meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Be a recipient of Free School Meals (FSM) in Year 11 or at sixth form
- Have parents or carers with no higher education degree
- Current recipient of EMA or Pupil Premium or the 16-19 Bursary
- Have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) at school
- Currently are, or have ever been, in care, or students with caring responsibilities
- Currently live in a POLAR4 Q1 or Q2 Neighbourhood

Places are offered based on student disadvantage and suitable host availability.

2022 Student Demographics

We supported 669 young people from over 300 schools



81% were from minority ethnic groups;

- 39% Asian or Asian British
- 24% Black, Black British, Caribbean or African
- 19% White
- 16% Other ethnicity
- 2% Prefer not to say

57%
were eligible for free
school meals

83%
have parents
who did not have
university degrees

2023 In2science summer programme

Catering to the interests and career aspirations of our participants, the 2023 In2science summer programme will deliver:

- **1 or 2 week in-person work placement.** Students will be matched in groups of up to three with a volunteer host whose work is of interest to them. They will spend 1 or 2 weeks at the host's workplace, building relationships and gaining experience and understanding to support them in making informed decisions about their own career pathway.
- **Online skills, employability and careers workshops.** A programme of webinars delivered by our partner organisations will provide support in skills such as personal statement writing, university admissions advice, CV writing and interview tips, university finance and STEM careers panels.
- **Public engagement competitions.** A chance for students to develop their skills in written and visual communication, have fun and win prizes!

In addition, to foster a collaborative environment the students also participate in:

- **Induction day.** Students will attend an in-person or online induction before the programme begins to meet their cohort and the In2scienceUK Team and ask questions about the programme. These sessions will also include useful tips about STEM careers, university and apprenticeship applications.
- **Celebration event.** To round off the programme, we will host in-person and online celebration events in recognition of the hard work and dedication from students and volunteers. Attendees from across the In2scienceUK community will have the opportunity to share their experiences on the programme, network, and learn more about how In2scienceUK can support them in the future.



Induction
days



1 or 2 week
in-person
placement



Online skills,
employability
and careers
workshops



Public
engagement
competitions



Celebration
event

2023 Programme Timeline

VOLUNTEERS

RECRUITMENT

[Online volunteer applications open](#)

Information asked for in the application:

- Personal details
- Your place of work
- Your area of expertise
- Placement availability and capacity
- Risks and sensitivities
- Consent

Volunteer applications close

MATCHING

Applicants' expertise, location and availability matched to suitable student/s or notified otherwise

Admin requirements if matched:

- Complete risk assessment
- Read and adhere to our safeguarding policy
- DBS check carried out if necessary
- Any other additional requirements needed from workplace for access

INDUCTION

Online training and induction

SUMMER PROGRAMME

Volunteers host work placements

Celebration event

STUDENTS

RECRUITMENT

[Online student applications open](#)

Student applications close

MATCHING

Students are shortlisted

Students matched to volunteer host in groups of approximately three and offered place on the programme

INDUCTION

In-person and online induction days

SUMMER PROGRAMME

Student participation in placements, online workshops and competitions

Celebration event

December 2022

Late March 2023

April

May

June July

Late July

August

September/
Early October

In2science summer programme benefits

Students

At In2scienceUK we are driven by our impact, and survey our participants before and after they take part in our summer programme. Key outcomes from 2022:

82%

“I know quite a lot about STEM”

81%

“I understand the content and structure of a range of STEM degrees”

81%

“I know where to get support and advice about the university application process”

“I completed a placement in biology at the Lab for Molecular Cell Biology at UCL. I got to use an electron microscope which is something I have always been really interested in. I even grew cancer cells in a lab and observed their growth over a week. Even though my placement was in biology, I also had the opportunity to mix with both physics and chemistry students at the university. My incredible mentor, a PhD researcher, really helped me get the hang of biology life at university. I loved my placement, this has really helped me make a decision with my future, I learnt so much. I am so happy I participated.”

Hirah, 2022 Participant

“Through volunteering with In2scienceUK, I got better at communicating science to students without any prior experience, specifically talking about all the things you do when you are in the lab. I found it super rewarding seeing how the students progressed in the lab and got more confident in doing things.”

Julie Nielsen, PhD student, The Francis Crick Institute

Volunteers

Through contributing to our programme, we make it easy for volunteers to create a lasting impact on the lives of young people and be the role model they themselves would have wanted at their age.

Volunteering with In2scienceUK you will:



Receive expert training and support



Gain skills and experience communicating with young people



Promote diversity and inclusion in STEM



Be a role model and make a real difference

Volunteers receive a certificate of participation which can be used as evidence of public engagement, and we can also write letters of recommendation.



In²science^{UK}



Visit our [website](#) or contact us at hosts@in2scienceuk.org for more information

In2scienceUK is a registered charity (1164821)
and company (07706662) in England and Wales

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