

In²science^{UK}

Our 2023 story



Introduction

A woman with dark hair, wearing safety glasses and a blue lab coat, is working in a laboratory. She is holding a test tube in her right hand and a pipette in her left hand. The background shows laboratory equipment, including a biosafety cabinet and pipettes.

In2scienceUK's mission is to mobilise the STEM community to unlock young people's potential and empower the future generation of STEM professionals. We accelerate social mobility by empowering young people from less-advantaged backgrounds to progress to vibrant careers in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

In 2023 we have taken huge leaps forward in supporting more students than ever before. We would like to say a huge thank you to our dedicated staff, volunteers and partners, without whom we would not be able to achieve our mission and continually grow our positive impact for future generations. Throughout 2024, we are looking forward to building on 2023's successes, expanding our programmes to support and inspire more young people on their journeys into STEM careers.

Supporters

Our supporters play a vital role in helping us to achieve our mission to improve access to science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) opportunities, regardless of individuals' background.

We would like to thank everyone who helped to make a positive difference for our beneficiaries, including partner organisations, individuals, and those who wish to remain anonymous.

Want to see your logo on this page?

Get in touch at
development@in2scienceuk.org



BLACKFIELD ASSOCIATES



D YOUNG^{CO} INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY



Omnicom Health Group



TPXimpact



U STUDENTS' UNION UCL



abcam



Appleyard Lees



NewScientist

SPRINGER NATURE



Our National Impact in 2023

We worked with over

600

volunteers (hosts, mentors,
and subject experts)
across our programmes

40

partner
organisations and funder
collaborations to support
delivery of our work



92%

of our In2STEM
alumni went on to
undertake a university
degree



99%

of these degrees
were in a STEM
subject



875

placements
delivered in total



We supported

1002
participants

across our programmes and

1128

users

on our new, interactive
In2careers platform

83%

of our alumni in full-
time employment are
working in a STEM field



“I applied to the In2STEM programme because I will be the first in my family to go to university and I wanted to confirm that it was the right decision for me. Having the chance to experience engineering at the University of Leeds, first hand, as well as what student and university life is really like, has given me the confidence to go for university.”



During the placement we have got hands on with projects, like working with the chem-cars. It has been fantastic because not only have we had the opportunity to do experiments and work with equipment we only talk about at school, we have also had to work like a real chemical engineer would, thinking about requirements, optimising processes and adapting the design.

Learning these skills will be really helpful, but the placement has also helped me learn soft skills. Speaking to professors, university students and other In2science participants has really helped me to learn how to communicate with people I didn't know.

Following the programme, I am leaning towards a career in chemical engineering, I'm also thinking about placements and a master's degree.

Having the opportunity to speak to engineers from different departments and even from industry, has made me realise that there are a lot of options and not one path to achieve it.”

Nunem

In2STEM participant



Taking on the challenges for the future of STEM

Only

6%

of doctors

9%

of life science
professionals

19%

of IT
professionals

were from
low-socio-economic
backgrounds in 2022



280% ↑

There has been a **280%**
increase in STEM sector
vacancies in a decade -
44,000 to 125,000



£1.5billion

the additional cost to the
STEM sector to address the
STEM skills gap

Top 3 ways you can help create a national impact



Sponsor us
to support more young people

Get in touch at development@in2scienceuk.org to find out more



Partner with us to provide opportunities for young people from less advantaged and underrepresented backgrounds



Spread the word

Share our impact with your network

Anyone should have the opportunity to jump into STEM subjects at higher education, the world will be better off for it.



Matt Allison
In2STEM volunteer

I knew I was really interested in science, but, beyond school, I didn't really have much opportunity to explore this. No one in my family knew anything about it, so I had to try to help myself. It was not easy to navigate alone.



Christina
In2research Participant

In²careers in 2023

Launched in May 2023, our In2careers programme is committed to supporting our young people as they journey through higher education and training and onto successful STEM jobs and careers.

The programme has already been an incredible success, with over **1,000 participants** on our interactive platform, giving our alumni community access to a portfolio of opportunities, including employability workshops and skills clinics, university peer mentoring and industry networking opportunities, access to work experience and internships, attendance to STEM festivals and events, as well as a host of volunteering opportunities to be able to give back to our community.

Impact

Working with In2Science is, and has been, such a rewarding experience... [it has] helped us reach young people from disadvantaged backgrounds allowing us to share our tips and experiences where they are needed most, and help guide them towards careers in technology. Not only is this rewarding for the Alumni, but also for the employees within Ocado, bringing them a sense of purpose, a chance to practise their presentation skills, and a positive impact on their wellbeing.

Laura Cumming

Ocado Code for Life Volunteer Project

I look forward to seeing the latest career opportunities and events for In2science alumni through the newsletters... Their ongoing work makes me feel that much more confident in knowing what STEM careers are out there and how to land them. I simply can't appreciate In2careers enough.

Hilina

In2careers participant



My experience with the team and brilliant alumni has been very fulfilling, as a science educator I have been challenged in my educational delivery but also encouraged by the intellectual curiosity demonstrated by the students. Most importantly what motivates me to work with In2careers is the close alignment of vision and values, they promote equal access to STEM and... tackle inequalities in science education which going forward will pave the way to a more diverse and inclusive STEM workspace.

Dr Chinedu Agwu

BioSci toolkit, In2careers supporter

We are delighted that since launching interactive In2careers platform in May 2023, our community has grown rapidly:


1,100+ users had already joined by the end of 2023

Before it's one-year anniversary, In2careers has already delivered:

 **40** employability workshops

 **46** participants presenting their research

 **6** networking events

 **1** visit to the Houses of Parliament with Shadow Secretary for Science Technology and Innovation

As we approach In2careers' first anniversary since its 2023 launch, we plan to continue building and expanding on the successful foundation we've already laid in collaboration with our alumni and partner community.

OUR 2023 STORY

In²STEM in 2023

Our In2STEM programme offers 16-19-year-olds (Year 12 or S5/S6) passionate about STEM the opportunity to take part in a blend of online and in-person activities, equipping participants with the skills, knowledge and confidence needed to excel in STEM.



897

young people participated, from over 361 schools



788

work experience placements delivered



451

volunteers (hosts, mentors, and subject experts)



17,016

hours of in-person placement experience provided

Our data below provides a snapshot of some of the ways our 2023 programme helped our young people:

87%

of students reported that the programme made them more sure of their career aspirations.

84%

of participants reported that they feel confident about using scientific evidence to make an argument.

75%

of participants stated that people like themselves work in STEM.

Impact

Where I am from, you don't get opportunities like this to explore science. I am even more excited to study neuroscience at university now.

Jazmin

In2STEM participant



In2scienceUK has made a noticeable difference to my career... I currently work as an analytical scientist... I still use most of the techniques I learned during my experience in my job today.

Mason

In2STEM alumnus



It's changed my perceptions of the jobs available to people with STEM degrees. I thought that most people that did STEM degrees only had specific fields they went into, like becoming a surgeon or doctor, but it showed me how with a STEM degree you can do more than that.

Halima

In2STEM participant



I was able to gain new skills, including coding and software skills, and understanding how to write a good personal statement and CV... My aspirations after finishing Year 13 are to do a degree apprenticeship in Digital and Technology Solutions, with my career aim being to become a Tech Consultant.

Emmanuella

In2STEM participant



Our impact analysis indicates that the In2STEM programme increases the ambition and confidence of participants in applying to universities:



97%

of students who applied were offered a place at University



99%

of those that went to University said they studied a STEM degree



90%

of students who applied to university applied to a higher tariff university



80%

of students who are offered a place at university were offered a place at a higher tariff university

Data taken from the three most recent cohorts for which follow-up survey and UCAS STROBE data were available, (2019 - 2021).

In²research in 2023

Our In2research programme aims to improve access to postgraduate research degrees and careers for people from low socio-economic backgrounds and under-represented groups.



105

participants supported by our programme



87

research placements delivered



158

volunteers (hosts, mentors, and subject experts)

Our data below provides a snapshot of some of the ways our 2023 programme helped our beneficiaries:

96%

stated that the programme has improved their confidence

in applying to, and their ability to undertake, a PhD programme

77%

reported that they would like a career in academic research

66%

reported that they would like a career in industrial research

Impact

I grew up in Devon, in a single-parent family of 5, and I had Free School Meals for my entire schooling...

I wanted to look into going into research but I didn't know what that looked like... at university that world seemed closed off..

I received invaluable support from my In2research Mentor. She supported me through every part of the application process for a fully-funded, four-year MRes and PhD opportunity.

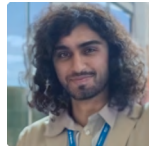
I was so surprised to be successfully offered a place starting this next academic year! I wouldn't have applied at all if I didn't do In2research.

Kendall

In2research Participant



Coming from a deprived area, growing up on free school meals, I couldn't afford to consider accessing opportunities which were unpaid or low paid. It is nice that the In2research programme removes that barrier, you can access research, it is a choice available to you. In2research has helped me realise I



don't need to leave science completely if I don't want to.

Abdul

In2research participant



My advice to potential volunteers is to do it! Why wouldn't you want to? You're providing a great opportunity, and that's part of what we should be trying to do as researchers - pushing for research-led education.



Dr Melissa Rayner

In2research Placement Host and Mentor



To understand the longer term impact of our work, we also analysed how many participants were in the process of applying or about to start a PhD or post-graduate degree in 2023/2024



59%

of participants said they are planning to apply for a PhD

We continue to gather data to help us further understand the success of our programme in improving access to postgraduate study.

Next Steps

Growing our reach

The next year will be one of growth for In2scienceUK and our programmes. As we move forward through 2024, our focus will be on building on 2023's successes, expanding our programmes to support and inspire more young people on their journeys into STEM careers.



Our work to date has created a foundation for our impact to expand. In 2024 and beyond we aim to support more young people than ever before. We will engage a wide range of volunteer hosts to offer as many young people as possible the chance to participate in our programmes, creating more opportunities for individuals from less-advantaged backgrounds to unlock their potential and access transformative opportunities in STEM.

Colby Benari

Chief Executive Officer at In2scienceUK

Partner with us

to create an impact for the future of STEM and benefit your business

Sponsor a placement, or invest your support across one or all of our programmes, to exponentially increase the impact your investment creates in building a brighter future in the STEM sector.

Mentor one of our beneficiaries to share your experiences, your passion for STEM, and help ensure the next generation of STEM leaders and innovators reach their full potential.

Lead a workshop to share your expertise, skills, and experience to help individuals from underrepresented backgrounds explore the exciting world of STEM.

Host a placement opportunity for individuals from under-represented backgrounds, helping us strengthen diversity in the sector, break down barriers, and nurture innovation for the future of STEM.

Visit in2scienceuk.org or email development@in2scienceuk.org and find out how you can get involved today.

We mobilise the STEM community to unlock young people's potential and empower the future generation of STEM professionals.

Join our mission
in2scienceuk.org



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