

# In2scienceUK | Summer Programme

HGF | Case Study

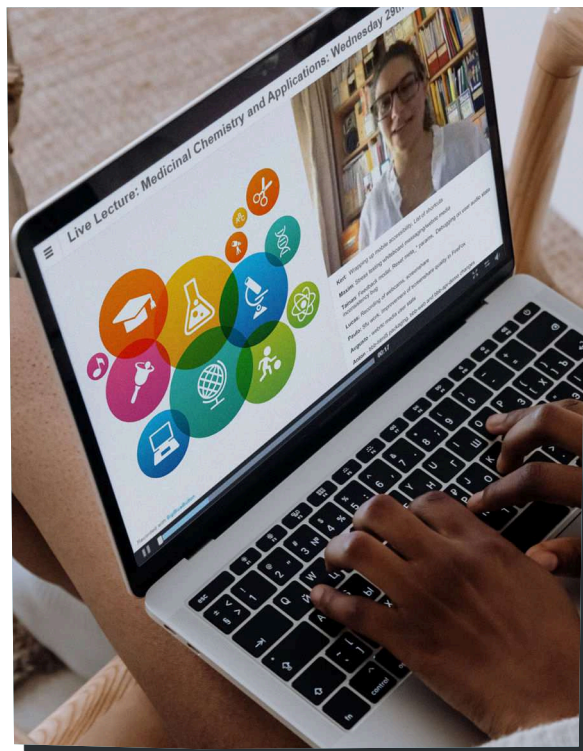
2021



Improving Social Mobility and Diversity in STEM

# Thank You For Supporting Our Mission

The 2021 In2scienceUK Programme supported 670 young people across the UK, providing them with opportunities to interact with cutting edge STEM researchers, learn employability skills and gain an insight into STEM degrees, apprenticeships and careers. The programme wouldn't be possible without the support of our funders, partners and volunteers, who believe in our mission to promote social mobility and diversity in STEM and empower young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve their full potential.



**350**

**Volunteers supporting the programme**

**531**

**Group mentoring sessions delivered**

**62**

**Research lectures developed and delivered**

**42**

**Skills, employability and careers workshops delivered**

## Student Case Study - Emmanuella

In2scienceUK student Emmanuella got involved with the programme to learn more about careers in the Tech industry. She had an inspiring experience, and has been able to gain new insights on the career paths available to her, as well as practical skills to support her in achieving her ambitions.



“I took part in the In2scienceUK programme to learn more about the career route that I want to take. I also wanted to have a taster of how a lecture would be like at university and the different routes I could take like apprenticeships.

The programme was informative and well rounded as it had workshops from different universities from Oxbridge to Russell group universities. There was also a mentoring element which was helpful. Through this I was able to develop what I could write in my personal statement like talking about the skills I have and what I have done as an extracurricular.

Throughout the programme I was also able to gain lots of new skills, including coding and software skills, understanding how to write a good personal statement and CV and lastly knowing how to pick the right course for yourself.

My advice for future In2scienceUK students is to be open to the different workshops to do with universities, apprenticeships, personal statement and CV writing and make sure to take some notes to apply to what you want to do!”

“The highlight for me was learning about the apprenticeship route through workshops, as it is not talked about a lot. I learnt that there are different routes such as higher and degree apprenticeships which pay while you learn.”

“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. Taking part in the In2scienceUK programme has made me want to go down the apprentice route as I believe it is more hands-on than doing a traditional degree.”

## Student Case Study - Rafia

For In2scienceUK student Rafia, taking part in the programme this summer has allowed her to learn valuable new skills to take with her into higher education and employment, given her countless opportunities to ask questions to passionate STEM professionals and ultimately to decide on what career path to pursue.

“Due to covid-19, finding work experience was difficult and to help out my teacher told me about the In2scienceUK programme. Reading the alumni’s experience on the website made it stand out and I decided to apply!”



“My experience on the In2scienceUK programme has been insightful and inspiring, exposing me to a whole host of opportunities. The lectures and research tasks that were involved helped me develop key independent learning skills that will help me in my future endeavours. Additionally, the workshops that were run have supported me in my application making process for university and have helped me in understanding how to make mine stand out. Lastly, being the first person from my family to be attending higher education, the support from my mentor was invaluable.

Initially, I found the research tasks challenging because I didn’t have much experience with independent learning. However, the support on the platform helped me gain these valuable skills and attending a second lecture from the research course leader would show me ways to improve. This challenging aspect quickly became the most engaging!

For me, the In2scienceUK programme has helped me decide between pursuing medicine or research. Although I enjoyed both, I realised that applying knowledge and working closely with people is more rewarding to me. There was a workshop “Science vs Medicine at University - which one is right for me?” which helped me better understand both roles and their advantages and disadvantages, which was crucial in my final decision to pursue medicine.

As someone who doesn’t have family members that have been to higher education or have jobs in the fields of healthcare, it was hard for me to find relevant work experience and support. This programme helped bridge this gap and has given me opportunities that have improved my application and given me tools to flourish at university.”

“My favourite aspect of the programme was the people: the lecturers, presenters, alumni and mentors. They were all really passionate and would give insightful information about what they do and how they got there. Furthermore, they always made time for questions that would answer queries and consolidate my knowledge.”

## Student Case Study - Ethan

Ethan, a student on the In2scienceUK programme this summer with a keen interest in physics and astronomy, got involved as he thought it was a great opportunity to expand his knowledge and understanding in subjects that he plans to study in university.



“Taking part in the In2scienceUK programme has only accentuated my thirst for knowledge in the field of physics. I cannot wait to begin the long journey of a STEM degree!”

“Taking part in the In2scienceUK programme is an excellent opportunity for anyone who feels they want to pursue a STEM career. It also helps you gain a better understanding on how STEM careers actually work.”

“My experience as part of the In2scienceUK programme has been incredibly interesting! I have learned a fair bit about not only physics and astronomy, but also about the application process of certain universities.

The best part for me was getting the chance to have meetings with actual physicists and discussing the questions of physics today.

This has only accentuated my thirst for knowledge in the field of physics. I cannot wait to begin the long journey of a STEM degree!

Aside from these interactions, throughout the programme I have also gained writing skills to help with my personal statement and developed my research skills to help in my ability to gather information.”

## Student Case Study - Emily

Emily aspires to study Natural Sciences or Biochemistry at university. She participated in the In2scienceUK programme to learn about cutting-edge research and to find out about some real world applications of science. She felt that the programme was really inspiring and particularly enjoyed the opportunity to ask STEM professionals questions. The programme has helped Emily confirm her desire to go into a career of scientific research. She would highly recommend the programme to anyone who is considering applying!

“The programme was extremely helpful and interesting. Having my own mentor with whom I could ask specific questions and communicate with was so helpful in allowing me to gain a better understanding of the research field.”

“I wanted to take part in the In2scienceUK programme to learn more about science outside of the classroom. Being able to link my science knowledge to real-world situations and be informed about cutting-edge science helped me develop my understanding of the importance of research.

The programme was extremely helpful and interesting. Having my own mentor with whom I could ask specific questions and communicate with was so helpful in allowing me to gain a better understanding of the research field. Visiting her workplace at a neuroscience lab was even more beneficial and informative and linked with the online lectures and courses I attended.

The highlight of the programme for me was being able to participate in so many courses and ask a wide range of STEM professionals questions. Without this programme, I would not have had the opportunity to do this. It also showed me that there are many areas of research, ensuring that I could find an area that was best suited to me.

Although I originally had an idea of going into research, this programme helped me decide that I would like to be in this community for certain. The idea of being able to collaborate with other researchers and work towards a common goal inspires me to further enhance my scientific knowledge after A Levels.

After Year 13 I would like to attend university and study Natural Sciences or Biochemistry. Being a part of this programme reinforced the importance of this field to me, inspiring me to persevere and work towards my goals.”

“To any future students thinking of applying to the programme I would say do it! The opportunities this programme offers are irreplaceable. Whether you are new to STEM or have been interested in it for years, you will find something fun and new for you.”



**In<sup>2</sup>science<sup>UK</sup>**

**In2scienceUK** is a registered charity (1164821)  
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Front cover photo by 2021 student Matas, taken on their In2scienceUK placement day