

IMPACT REPORT

Virtual Insight into University 20/21



**CONNECTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH INDUSTRY
AND INSPIRING STEM FUTURES**



Insight into University

The virtual Insight into University course is a unique programme where students aged 16-17 have access to a range of STEM subjects all in one place. This allows them the freedom to explore various subjects or focus in depth on one particular subject and tailor make a course to suit them.

Thanks to our valued university and industry partners the students were able to increase their knowledge and skills and make a better informed decision about their future studies and career path.

The students worked flexibly over the summer on the following modules using our Learning Management System.

- University Life
- STEM subjects at University
- University Lectures
- World of Work
- Live sessions
- Projects and Activities
- Graduation Project

To successfully complete their course and meet the criteria to achieve a Silver Industrial Cadets award the students had to do around 30 hours of study including producing a graduation project. The graduation project allowed them to pick a particular area of interest from the course and develop it with extended personal research and showcase what they had learnt.



Live Sessions

A key part of the course were the live sessions, these were a variety of panel sessions, Q&As, lectures, interactive labs, industry insights, meet the students, advice for uni applications and many more. In total there were over 100 live session running in the 8 week course for students to choose from. This live interaction and ability to ask questions to the experts is invaluable during a virtual course to allow students to feel connected and involved.

Insight into University

We would like to thank all of the universities, companies, organisations and volunteers who supported the course by providing content, activities, projects, live sessions, time and knowledge to help the students.

The Highlights

1430 students participated from 274 schools & colleges

50% male , 50% female

40% BAME students

26% First in family to apply to university

86 students had a disability or learning difficulty

61% of students were Widening Participation students

The Impact

99% of students agree that by participating in the course they have learnt more about the STEM degree courses available to them at university

98% are likely to study a STEM related subject at university having completed their course

84% of students feel confident or very confident in making their future study and career choices now that they have completed the online course

91% of students feel that the skills and knowledge that they have gained from the course will have a positive impact on their future studies and/or career

HEAR WHAT OUR STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY

Igniting passion in STEM

"I've absolutely loved every minute of this course and I'm so grateful that I've had this opportunity. I found the live sessions in particular very inspiring and informative, and all of the taster lectures were both accessible and challenging. I'm really excited to continue with my STEM studies, and above all thank you so much!"

Aiding students on their future path

"This course absolutely helped me with my future education and career path. The way I was able to choose which activities or lectures I wanted to complete was undeniably useful as it meant I could tailor a course to suit me. This was a thoroughly enjoyable experience."

"I enjoy science and engineering, but didn't understand how to get into it as a career. This course taught me so much more about studying STEM at university level, and gave me lots of advice on how to go about getting a career in my favoured subjects. The live lessons were great, super informative and I loved all the ones I joined."

Connecting students with role models

"It was great to hear from so many STEM professionals about their journey and it was good to hear so much of their advice."

"The overall course was incredibly helpful and gave me lots of insight into my future. Personally, I found that the sessions that included a Q&A or a talk from a previous female student most useful, because it was nice to see the increasing diversity in STEM. I had a brilliant time and I know this has been incredibly beneficial, so I want to thank you!"

Helping students to find out what works for them

"Really enjoyed the course! Having access to all this information in the one place was really good, as was the course structure and the fact it was self-paced but with some deadlines to encourage us to finish the work. I especially enjoyed the freedom of the graduation project. The course has also reassured my worries and anxieties about completing a STEM course at university with a disability."

Providing a taster of different STEM subjects all in one place

"I was able to gain an insight on Chemistry, Maths and engineering at university, which was very insightful as I am picking my A levels this summer".

"When I started the course, I barely even knew what the different types of engineering were and now, having completed it, I am confident in my choice to do mechanical engineering. It was very helpful for giving short but informative tasters into the different disciplines so that I could make my decision. I really enjoyed the course and feel much more confident in applying to university having done it."

"Through this course I managed to discover Material Sciences which I had not heard of previously and I found it really interesting and am now considering it as a degree so overall this course has been incredibly useful for me and I loved being able to spend part of my summer learning about STEM."

"I found the course really useful in helping me to consolidate my decision to study maths at university. The live sessions and lectures really gave me a feel for what studying at university is like"

Raising young peoples aspirations and improving their chances of a bright future

DELIVERING WITH A DIFFERENCE



ENSURING our projects include volunteers and mentors from industry.

FINDING benefits rather than barriers by transforming all of our activities to an online environment.

CREATING new compelling content using our expertise to engage young people.

OFFERING a multitude of STE(A)M activities across the whole educational journey.

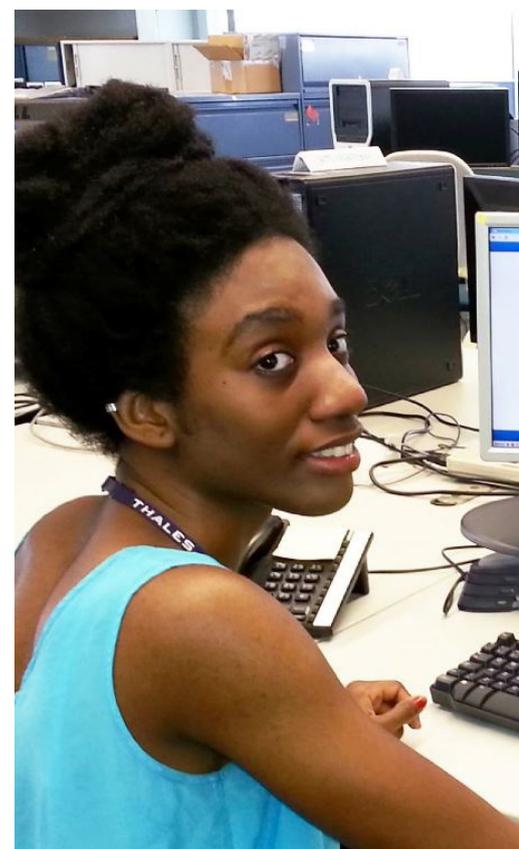
BUILDING bespoke programmes with our STE(A)M educational experts to meet sponsors, impact or geographic needs.

UNLOCKING potential and promoting achievement through Industrial Cadets.

ENCOURAGING young people to continuously engage, awarding them for their participation, leading from activities through to a fulfilling career.



We are proud of what we do!



INDUSTRIAL CADETS



"It is hugely encouraging, that so many young people have become Industrial Cadets. It's clear to me that the rapid pace of change in the way that our industry is operating is bringing a host of new challenges and opportunities, not only in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, but also of course in the creative arts."

Patron of Industrial Cadets: HRH The Prince of Wales



Challenger



Bronze



Silver



Gold



Platinum

Industrial Cadets is a key component to EDT's portfolio; creating pathways to unlock potential and promote achievement. The Industrial Cadets flexible framework allows:

Young people to have the opportunity to get a unique insight into industry and demonstrate experience and progression. Their skills and knowledge are built and enhanced whilst being supported by industry. Young people receive recognition at the end of their experience and graduate as Industrial Cadets, becoming part of a national accreditation network. They can build their Industrial Cadets portfolio and explore further opportunities.

Employers and partners to have a direct influence in the development of skills in young people; helping to build a future talent pool, raise aspirations and careers awareness. Employers and partners can accredit existing EDT activities or work with our delivery partners to tailor and develop programmes at various Industrial Cadets levels, creating a structured pathway of engagement activities. Once the activity has been successfully completed, organisations gain an Industrial Cadets accredited status.

Educators to enrich the curriculum, with inspiring experiences for their students that provide unique insight into courses, careers and routes to employment whilst engaging with local communities.



...of Industrial Cadets agreed that they have improved their skills as a result of their Industrial Cadets experience



...of Industrial Cadets would recommend to other students in their school to take part in Industrial Cadets



...of Industrial Cadets are likely to choose a future career related to their Industrial Cadets experience

WE THANK ALL OF OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS WHO MADE THE COURSE POSSIBLE



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Social media

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