



# Participant Case Study

Ana Rodriguez

Physics Teacher, Desborough College



Ana joined the RIS programme as part of the 2019 cohort and has been teaching Physics at Desborough College in Maidenhead. She completed her PhD at the University of Reading and her thesis was titled: 'Improving small power energy estimation in energy audits in buildings.'

## How Ana made an impact

Ana's Uni Pathways course, a university-access intervention based on her PhD, was delivered to a group of Year 9 pupils in Autumn 2019. Her course was entitled 'Greenify your school'. As part of the course, Ana and her pupils visited SOAS, University of London, received a tour of the university and attended a Q&A session with student ambassadors.



Additionally, for her participant-identified activity, Ana planned and delivered the "Desborough Champion University Programme". This involved running sessions with a group of 6th Form students from under-represented backgrounds. These sessions looked at themes such as career motivations and the university applications process, as well as including external speakers from within her academic network who spoke about university in greater detail.



*"I read articles and my notes to help remember what I am meant to learn. I do past papers and worksheets for extra knowledge"*

*"I enjoyed the tour of the university because it gave me a sense of what daily life at a university might be like. I also enjoyed the tutorial because it was well laid out."*

Desborough College Uni  
Pathways Pupils

## The RIS Programme

RIS offers a tailored route into teaching exclusively for PhD graduates specifically designed to utilise their academic expertise to the benefit of pupils and schools. Participants are placed in non-selective state schools on a tailored initial teacher education (ITE) programme delivered in partnership by RIS and regional ITE providers.

For more information on the programme and how you can get involved, please visit [thebrilliantclub.org/ris](https://thebrilliantclub.org/ris)

