The Brilliant Club’s Scholars Programme gives pupils from non-selective state schools the opportunity to work with a PhD researcher to experience university style learning. It helps pupils develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to secure a place at a highly-selective university. We work with pupils from aged 7 to 18, supporting pupils to make an informed choice at 18.

The Scholars Programme offers:

- Challenging supra-curricular courses taught by a world-class researcher
- Experience of university-style learning in small group tutorials
- Two visits to highly-selective universities

Why get involved?

- Develop key university readiness skills, including critical thinking and meta-cognition
- Scholars Programme graduates are almost twice as likely to progress to highly-selective universities (UCAS evaluation, 2019)
- Robust impact reports showcasing progress towards Gatsby Benchmark 7
- Cited as an effective use of Pupil Premium by Ofsted

A national movement

- 800 Schools
- 40 Partner universities
- 15,000 Pupils across the UK
All pupils complete a challenging final assignment pitched one key stage above their current level. Tutors provide one-to-one feedback in tutorials 6 and 7. Assignments are marked and moderated with university gradings.

Pupil selection
The Brilliant Club requires that at least 55% of pupils registered on the programme fulfil at least one of the following criteria:
- Pupil premium eligible
- No parental history of higher education
- Deprivation according to postcode

Course examples
The courses your pupils complete will be unique to the tutor who is working with them, but the examples provide a flavour of the exciting courses pupils could experience.

Bacteria superheroes: can they help us save our environment?
Is the internet an artist? Creativity in the digital age
Mapping the world through contemporary art
Fantastic viruses and where to find them
The mind in time: navigating past and future
Can a computer be my doctor?
How to rebuild a country

Launch trip
A visit to a highly-selective university to meet their PhD tutor, experience their first tutorial and learn about university life.

In-school tutorials
Their PhD tutor visits the school on a weekly basis to deliver tutorials 2-6. Pupils each receive a course handbook to support them through the programme. Pupils also have access to a virtual learning environment to get support from their tutor.

Programme planning
A lead teacher at the school will be supported by a Scholars Programme Officer to plan the programme.

Programme starts

Graduation trip
A visit to another highly-selective university to celebrate pupils’ achievements on the programme through the graduation ceremony and learn more about university life. At some venues, parents and carers are also invited.

School impact report
We provide a detailed impact report at the end of the programme outlining pupils’ progress against our university readiness competencies. The report also showcases pupil premium impact and progress against the Gatsby benchmarks.

School impact report

Pupil journey

Course examples

Bacteria superheroes: can they help us save our environment?
Is the internet an artist? Creativity in the digital age
Mapping the world through contemporary art
Fantastic viruses and where to find them
The mind in time: navigating past and future
Can a computer be my doctor?
How to rebuild a country
Programme impact
Independent analysis by UCAS shows that 56% of Year 12 pupils that completed The Scholars Programme progressed to a highly-selective university, compared to only 30% of pupils with similar backgrounds. This is a sizeable and statistically significant difference.

How to get your school involved:
The school contribution is £179 per pupil, a total of £2,148 per placement, which consists of 12 pupils. This cost is subsidised through contributions from our university partners and external grants and donations.

Schools can sign up at any time in the school year. However, we advise signing up in advance of the deadlines below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms offered</th>
<th>Sign up by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autumn October - February</td>
<td>July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring (January - May)</td>
<td>October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer (March - July)</td>
<td>December</td>
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Get in touch!
Click here to enquire, or email tspschools@thebrilliantclub.org to register your interest and discuss with us.

“Our child has loved being involved in the programme. It made her think more seriously about going to a university when she’s older and given her a sense of pride in her work.”

Primary school parent, Bristol

“My tutor provided me with constructive criticism of my analyses and assignments which allowed for an improvement in the standard of my work. This not only helped me to excel in my A-Levels, but it also helped me achieve a 1st in my final Brilliant Club assignment which made for a strong addition to my UCAS personal statement.”

Scholars Programme alumnus, now studying at the University of Cambridge

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