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 when they leave school.

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 detailing how the programme makes use of school funding
  - Supports schools to meet their requirements from the Education and Training Inspectorate

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

Partner universities
800 Schools
40 Partner universities
15,000 Pupils across the UK

A national movement
School Impact Report

All pupils complete a challenging final assignment pitched one year above their current level. Tutors provide one-to-one feedback in tutorials 6 and 7. Assignments are marked and moderated with university gradings.

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

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.

Final assignment and feedback

In-school tutorials

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

School impact report
We provide a detailed impact report at the end of the programme outlining pupils’ progress against our university readiness competencies.

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.

Pupil selection
The Brilliant Club requires that at least 55% of pupils registered on the programme fulfill at least one of the following criteria:
- Eligible for free school meals
- 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 there anybody out there?: Life in the universe
- 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
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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<td>Summer (March - July)</td>
<td>December</td>
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Get in touch!
Click [here](#) to enquire, or email [tspschools@thebrilliantclub.org](mailto:tspschools@thebrilliantclub.org) to register your interest and discuss with us.

Programme impact
Independent analysis by UCAS shows that 56% of school leavers 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.

“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

“‘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

“Programme impact”

56%

30%