



WALTHAMSTOW ACADEMY

Walthamstow, London

Lead Teacher: Harriet Jackson

Role: Geography Teacher,
Gifted & Talented Coordinator



WHAT WAS THE MOTIVATION FOR RUNNING THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME IN YOUR SCHOOL?

I heard about the Brilliant Club through Teach First during my teacher training. The Scholars Programme fit closely with the aims of my role as Gifted and Talented Coordinator, and with our wider school priorities of increasing determination and ambition amongst our high attaining pupils. It was an amazing opportunity for our pupils and I am so proud of the way they dedicated themselves to it from the start.

CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE PUPILS' EXPERIENCE OF THE PROGRAMME?

The pupils made the most of the launch trip and every tutorial, gaining both fascinating knowledge from their PhD tutor on child soldiers in conflict, and invaluable skills including independence in study and structuring a university-style essay. They also made the most of the university experience, and this programme has facilitated many wonderful discussions about their future ambitions. It was also lovely for me to have the chance to get to know these pupils better outside of the normal school context, to see their ideas and ambitions grow as we made our way through the programme together. I found the tutorials fascinating and couldn't help but get involved sometimes! Thank you to Maya for humouring me on this front.



"It was eye opening to the inside world of university and allowed for me to understand different aspects of this life."

"Oxford is my new goal!"

Pupils from Walthamstow Academy on a trip to Keble College, University of Oxford



ANY FURTHER COMMENTS?

Communication from the Brilliant Club was always outstanding. The quality of resources was consistently high, and they showed a clear commitment to our school and our pupils. It was a pleasure working with Phoebe and her colleagues and I look forward to doing so again in the future. I have just started a Head of Year role for incoming year 7s and I am certain that this is an opportunity I will want my year group to take part in as soon as possible.

Click [here](#) to enquire about running The Scholars Programme in your school.

