



University of
Nottingham

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Primary & Partnerships Team

3 Key objectives:

- To raise awareness of and share information about Higher Education
- To raise aspirations to Higher Education
- To encourage and promote a love of learning



Team

- 2 Managers
- 4 Outreach Officers
- 1 part time Administrator

Schools

- 100+ target schools
- Nottingham City/Notts County/Derbys
- Programme eligibility

Programmes

- Discovery Days
- Family Learning
- Learning Leaders



A three part project - a campus visit, sandwiched by 2 in-school sessions

KS2 – Years 3 – 6 - in collaboration with academics

- Pre visit – delivered a week before campus visit
- Visit to a University Campus – academic theme
- Post visit – delivered a week after campus visit
- Themes include Science Fair, Astronomy, Sports & Nutrition, Roboduck, Vikings, Computer Science, Local History, Ancient Greece, AmCan

KS1 – Year 2 – Intro to HE/Aspiration raising

- Pre visit – delivered a week before campus visit
- Visit to a University Campus
- Post visit – delivered a week after campus visit



Partnership with IntoUniversity – Academic Support

- Autumn – Aspiration and intro to HE session – **In centre**
- Spring – Academic related session – **In centre**
- Summer – Drop in activities and graduation – **On campus**

Family Discovery Day/Wonder

- Pre visit in schools – Aspiration and intro to HE session
- Family Discovery Day – Academic drop in activities
- Wonder – Main event + afternoon tea and drop in activities



Undergraduate Learning Leaders -

- Delivered in partnership with academic school
- Subject based sessions delivered in schools
- Aspiration raising input
- Average 250 volunteers per year
- Subjects; **History, Philosophy, Classics, Sociology, Pharmacy, Physics and Astronomy, Psychology and Languages.**

Post-graduate Learning Leaders

- Direct recruitment – Philosophy, Plant Sciences, Food Sciences, History, Vet-Med
- Physics – Size and Scale



Add on Aspiration activities

- Limited availability
- Eligibility criteria
- Aspiration day on campus
- Menu session in school – [Study What You Love](#), [Trying Your Best](#), [Skills for Success](#)



Primary FOCUS

- Primary FOCUS Weeks – Tuesday workshops and Friday ‘Graduations’

Secondary FOCUS

- Buddy Days for Year 8 pupils
- A Day of University Life (ADOUL) – Year 12/13

IUVS

- Mentoring scheme – recruitment, meetings in centre, graduation event

Holiday FOCUS

- Primary or secondary – held during the school holidays





- **Firbeck Primary Academy** – Structured programme of interventions across whole school: assemblies, workshops, wow day, in-depth interventions at Year 2 and Year 6
- **NUAST** – Range of bespoke interventions e.g. Mock interviews – careers/university, Year 12 Biology day, WES etc
- **NUSA** – Bespoke interventions e.g. Year 10 media visit





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Primary Evaluation



- LO1: Increase awareness and understanding of higher education
- LO2: Engage children in learning
- LO3: Raise aspirations for the future



LO1: Increase awareness and understanding of higher education

Pre & post awareness questions:

- **KS2** - 'what is a university? Write down everything you know'

What is a university?
Write down everything you know



- **KS1** – 'what makes a university?'

What makes a university?

1) Circle the pictures that tell us what university is like.



2) Read each sentence and tell us if it is true (✓) or false (x)

People get to choose their best subject at university	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nobody has any fun at university	<input type="checkbox"/>
People do not learn at university	<input type="checkbox"/>
People go to university because it can be really fun	<input type="checkbox"/>
University does not help people to get a job	<input type="checkbox"/>
The teachers pick a subject for you to study at university	<input type="checkbox"/>



LO2: Engage children in learning

- **Teachers/IntoUniversity staff are asked** ‘what percent of their pupils/family members they thought were engaged throughout the session’



LO3: Raise aspirations for the future

- **Pre & post intervention question** ‘who thinks they (their children) would like to go to university one day?’

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**Would you like to go to
university one day?**

 I would like to go!

 I'm not sure, or I don't
want to go to university.



LO1, 2 & 3

Post intervention teacher survey:

- to what extent do you agree that the objectives were met?
- please can you describe the impact this project had on your pupils?
- Work sample photographs to show evidence of working towards the LOs

Comments are coded according to the FaBs that children describe:

- Learning
- Route to HE
- Working towards advancement
- Future prospects
- Anyone can go to university
- Freedom of choice
- University life/campus
- Enjoyment



- **Teachers typically agree that our projects meet their objectives to:**
 1. Increase awareness and understanding of HE 97% agreed
 2. Engage children in learning 99% agreed
 3. Raise aspirations for the future 96% agreed
- In the majority of classes (75%), children can name more facts of university after taking part in a project. Children were more likely to associate university with the following concepts after working with us:
 1. university life 119% increase
 2. freedom of choice 132% increase
 3. learning 13% increase
- 97% of classes showed high or very high levels of engagement in learning
- 98% of classes show very high levels of aspiration to higher education on completion of projects (53% increased aspiration from the project start)



Teachers thoughts

“Children had the chance to learn a new subject... this meant that they were instantly engaged... lots of them have said they want to come to university when they are older.” (*Teacher, Southwark Primary School*)

The best part of the project was “engaging parents who would not normally engage in school life.” (*Teacher, Sneinton St. Stephen’s C of E Primary School*)

“This session was absolutely amazing! All of my children were engaged in every task and it brought some of my hard to reach children out of their shell.” (*Teacher, Wainwright Primary Academy*)

“For many of our children, just having the opportunity to visit university raises their aspirations and allows them to see university in such a positive light.” (*Teacher, Dallimore Primary School*)

“I believe that [my pupils] now realise that people from all backgrounds can go to university.” (*Teacher, Mansfield Primary Academy*)

- Evaluating parent/carer changes in knowledge & understanding
- Collecting data via third parties eg student volunteers
- Quality of answers from participants and avoiding leading questions

▪ **Aspiration vs. Expectations**

Q. Does anyone have any ideas about measuring expectations over aspiration?