

Nuffield Science Bursaries



Experience science in action

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It's not all about white coats

Go further with science,
technology, engineering or maths

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Senel Hazal

Senel gets busy with insects
at the Natural History Museum

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Get the knowledge

*"The Nuffield Bursary
was one of the best things
I have done. Although
my project was mentally
challenging, it did not
feel like work because
I enjoyed it so much."*

Sethu Jayakumar, Chelmsford County High
School, Royal Free Hospital



What are you doing this summer?

You could spend your holiday working with scientists, technologists, engineers or mathematicians on a **research project** in your area.

You'll get **hands-on experience** of a professional research environment and a **valuable insight** into the sorts of careers available to you. You'll **meet new people** and **learn loads of new skills** which will help with whatever you choose to do next, whether that's a university application, a job or further training.

You don't need to know what you are going to study at university or what you want to do as a career. A **passion for any area of science, technology, engineering or maths** is a good start: a research placement can help you decide if you want to take it further.

What's more, **you'll get paid for it**. You'll receive £80 a week to help you make the most of your experience.

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics. If you're interested in any of these subjects, you could be in for an interesting summer.





Not your average holiday job

We can arrange a **four to six week paid research placement** in a university, research institute or company.

You won't just be making the tea. Unlike other work experience placements and summer jobs you'll have **responsibility** for your own research project. With **expert supervision**, you'll work on a project that will be useful to professional scientists and engineers.

You'll write a project report, receive a certificate of achievement, and have plenty to tell your friends when you get back to school.

You'll get **valuable experience** of teamwork, interviews, presentations and writing reports.

You will also get the chance to enter your project for a British Science Association CREST Award, and could attend regional, national and international science fairs.

- 
- Learn new skills
 - Make a difference
 - Try out STEM careers
 - Meet people like you
 - Paid placements



“One thing has led to another. I have built up contacts in industry, learnt so much about the environment, and been awarded some amazing prizes.”

Stephanie Tudgey
Farnborough Sixth Form College, QinetiQ

Could it be you?

- Are you **over 16**?
- Are you studying for **AS levels, BTEC, Scottish Highers, or the International Baccalaureate**?
- Are you studying **science?**
 - ...technology?**
 - ...engineering?**
 - ...maths?**
- Do you enjoy **STEM subjects**?
- Are you getting **good results** so far?
- Do you want to be involved in **real experiments**?
- Do you want to pursue STEM subjects at **university**?
- Do you like work that makes you **think**?
- Do you love **solving problems**?
- Are you up for a **challenge**?

If you've answered yes to most or all of these questions, we'd love to hear from you.

You don't need to approach universities or companies directly. Your local coordinator will arrange a placement that suits your interests and abilities. Turn to page 11 to find out how to apply.

Could your workplace provide a placement for a student?

Nuffield Science Bursaries can link your organisation with a motivated, enthusiastic student. Visit www.nuffieldfoundation.org to find out more.

It's not all about white coats

Play all day as a **games developer**. Save the world as a **climate scientist**. Hang out with bands as a **radio producer**. Work with star athletes as a **sports technologist**. Pick apart the action as a **crime scene investigator**. Make your mark on the world as a **structural engineer**. Get the dance floor moving as a **lighting technician**. Go into the deep as a **marine biologist**. Change lives as a **neurosurgeon**. See stars as an **astronaut**.

A STEM qualification could take you further, faster.

There is a huge demand for skilled workers with STEM qualifications. Some of the most exciting industries in the world are recruiting women and men from all backgrounds into world-changing careers, and they pay well. With a STEM qualification and good experience under your belt, you could be in demand.

"It was exciting to experience what 'science' really is. The enthusiasm of brilliant scientists who were passionate about their research was inspiring."

Kate Champion, Impington Sixth Form College, Babraham Institute

CASE STUDY

Senel Hazal

Senel Hazal, 17, from Chadwell Heath Academy, did a placement at the Entomology Department of the Natural History Museum.

It feels really good being around scientists every day.

My mentor was a great enthusiast for flies and insects. She was so passionate, working with her was fun and she answered all our little questions. She has travelled a lot, doing fieldwork. I'd love to do that.

I was really nervous about starting the placement. Chucked in the deep end with all these scientists that have PhDs and all the rest, and you're just an AS-level student! But they're really supportive, take you under their wing and don't expect you to know everything when you start. You ask questions, they help you understand. It's as simple as that. It's not like an exam or anything. We learned as we went along.

I used to come to the Natural History Museum as a child, but little did I know there's this massive department of scientists working through all these things. Scientists work really hard to get everything ready to present to the public. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to come behind the scenes – not many people get to do that.



In school you're limited by time and resources. I had no idea there was so much to learn about flies! You realise how useful they are! There's more to it than just a little experiment at school.

9-5 every day, science was our job. It's my passion – seeing it behind the scenes really gave me a feel for it. Being there in the laboratory makes you think, 'you know what, I'd love to do that.'

I know science is for me now.

CASE STUDY

Rebecca Martin

Rebecca Martin, 18, from Ballyclare Secondary School, did a placement at Northern Ireland Water Laboratories.

I love meeting people and experiencing new things. I applied for the placement because I felt it would be an interesting way to spend my holidays. I didn't really expect to be awarded the bursary, but I was lucky!

I felt excited but apprehensive on the first day as I did not know what was expected of me. Initially I completed training, and then started on my project: calibrating laboratory equipment, making up volumetric solutions and working with members of staff.

“I felt excited but apprehensive on the first day.”

I learned a lot about working as part of a team and organising my time, and found it really useful to work with laboratory equipment. It showed me how important accuracy is in making solutions and keeping records. I enjoyed learning about science before but this placement allowed me to see that I would enjoy it as a career.



I would advise others to go for it. It was so good to see what happens in a working laboratory. I gained skills that will be useful to me later and I was able to meet lots of useful contacts.

CASE STUDY

Tobi Abiola

Tobi Abiola, 17, from Cardinal Pole RC School, did a placement at University College London.

I like sport and science and was interested in going to university. I applied for the placement because I was interested in seeing what a future in research might be like – I thought it would be useful to get experience firsthand. I did not expect to be successful in my application!

For my placement I worked on Zebrafish embryo development.

I was really excited on the first day. I spent the first few days with my supervisor being shown how everything works, but the rest of the placement I was working and being proactive. My supervisors were really supportive and made sure I knew what I was doing.

I learnt a lot about biology, and that labs can be really fun. My advice to others would be to go for it – it's much more fun than what you might expect. My friends don't know what they're missing out on!

Now I definitely want to go to university and do research as a career.



“My friends don’t know what they’re missing out on!”

The knowledge

What type of subjects do I need to be studying to apply?

You need to be in your first year of A-levels, AS-levels, BTEC, Scottish Highers, or the International Baccalaureate. Placements are available in all areas of science, engineering, technology and maths, so you must be studying at least one related subject.

What happens if I am awarded a bursary?

You will work with a scientist, technologist, engineer or mathematician who will be your supervisor. Your supervisor will explain what the project involves, what contribution your work will make and what you might aim for. He or she will teach you any new techniques that you might need, but the idea is that you learn by doing things for yourself.

What sort of projects could I work on?

Past projects have involved asteroids, lasers,

bottlenose dolphins and everything in between. If you're interested in it, we'll do our best to find you a project. And if you're not sure what you're interested in, we'll help you find out.

How long will the project last?

Projects run for four to six weeks and take place during the summer holidays.

Where will the placement be?

Projects take place in universities, research institutes and companies. Your local coordinator will do their best to find a placement close to where you live.

Will I get paid?

You will receive £80 per week to cover travel and other expenses.

How will the placement benefit me?

Your placement will teach you a lot about your chosen subject and about the world of work. Talking about your placement will help with university and job applications, and may help you to decide what career you want to go into.

What is a Gold CREST Award?

You may choose to work towards a Gold CREST (Creativity in Science and Technology) Award while on your placement. This is a nationally recognised scheme run by the British Science Association. Nuffield Bursary projects usually fulfil the criteria so you are encouraged to submit your work for an award.

www.britishecienceassociation.org

"I feel that this project has prepared me for life after school in a way that my school never could. I would suggest to anyone who has the opportunity to take full advantage of this life-changing experience."

Katie Forbes, Kincorth Academy, Marine Scotland

What do I do now?

STEP 1: Look at our website

www.nuffieldfoundation.org/students

Think about the possible benefits to you and decide whether or not you would like to apply for a bursary.

STEP 2: Check at home

Make sure you will be able to set aside four to six weeks in July and August for a placement without clashing with holidays or other arrangements.

STEP 3: Talk to your teacher

Tell your teacher you are interested in the scheme. Think about what subjects you are interested in. Ask for a copy of the application form.

STEP 4: Get in touch with your regional coordinator

The coordinator will be able to talk you through the application process and the sort of project you might do.

Your regional coordinator is:

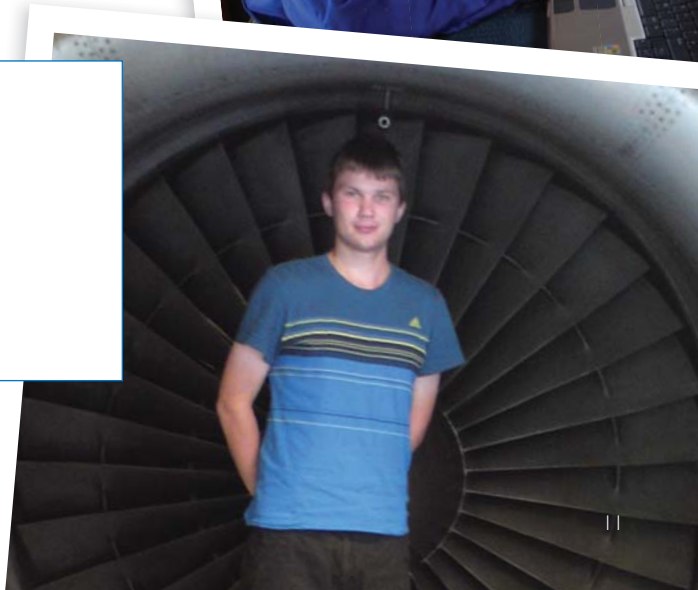
Top: Katie Forbes,
Kincorth Academy, Marine Scotland

Bottom: Matthew Mead,
Redford Upper School,
Cranfield University

STEP 5: Prepare your application

Fill in the form describing why you are interested in the placement and why you are the right person for it.

STEP 6: Submit your application



Inspiring students with 1,000 funded projects each year.

Contact your Nuffield coordinator for details on how to apply.
For more information see www.nuffieldfoundation.org/scb

About us

The Nuffield Foundation is a charitable trust established in 1943 by William Morris, Lord Nuffield, the founder of Morris Motors.

Our aim is to improve social well-being by funding research and innovation in education and social policy. We also work to build capacity in science and social science research.

We believe policy and practice should be influenced by independent and rigorous evidence. Our Science Bursaries aim to ensure these qualities are maintained in the future by investing in young people's careers in science and research.

You can find out more at www.nuffieldfoundation.org/scb

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wellcome trust



society for general
Microbiology

