



# EXPERIENCE RESEARCH IN ACTION

Spend your summer holiday developing your research and quantitative skills on a short project that will enhance your university application and career prospects

NUFFIELD RESEARCH PLACEMENTS

- Are you over 16 and in full-time education in the UK?
- Do you have at least five GCSEs or Scottish Nationals at grade B/Grade 6 or above, including maths, a science subject, and English or another humanities subject?
- Do you want to apply your scientific and data knowledge and skills to a real-world research project?
- Are you studying one or more A-levels or Scottish Highers (or equivalent) in science, technology, engineering or maths?

If this sounds like you then a Nuffield Research Placement could be the perfect way to spend your summer.



# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Nuffield Research Placements take place in your summer holidays after Year 12, 13 or S5. You will work on a project that relates to an area of science, quantitative social science, computing, technology, engineering or maths (or a combination of these). Most projects are based in an office, but some include working in a laboratory or fieldwork.

Placements are between four and six weeks in length and are available in your local area. Your placement might be in a university, research institute, company, or voluntary organisation. You will work alongside professional researchers on a project that is an important part of their business.

Your placement will not cost you or your parents/carers anything. We reimburse travel costs for all students, and depending on your family circumstances, you may also be eligible to receive a bursary.





# WHAT DO I DO NOW?

## 1 LOOK AT OUR WEBSITE

Visit [www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nrp](http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nrp) to find out more about Nuffield Research Placements and to decide whether to apply.

## 2 CHECK AT HOME

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

## 3 TALK TO YOUR TEACHER

Tell your teacher you are interested in applying and ask if they can write a reference for you.

## 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. You can find their contact details on our website.

## 5 PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION

Register and complete the online application form at [nuffieldresearchplacements.org](http://nuffieldresearchplacements.org), describing why you are interested in the placement and how it will benefit you.

## 6 SUBMIT YOUR ONLINE APPLICATION

Good luck!





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“During my placement I worked on identifying patterns in the annual fluctuation of the UK’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP). I used a range of statistical techniques to analyse economic data, which I obtained from journal articles and online databases.

“One of the best outcomes was being able to apply the concepts and theories that I’d learned from AS-level maths and economics. This really helped me see the value of continuing with my mathematical studies at a higher level.”

**QUINCY OKEKE** undertook his project at **Coventry University**.

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“I thoroughly enjoyed my Nuffield Research Placement, it was a truly life changing experience. It opened up my eyes to the different opportunities out there and gave me motivation to work hard in my studies so that I can contribute to research in the future. My project was an investigation of whether targeting executive function – for example by teaching children to play chess – could improve education. The experience I had, and the skills I gained, are invaluable and have helped me become the person I am today.”

**ILANA FOREMAN** completed her project at the **University of Cambridge**.

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“My project was about reconstructing rapid climate change in South Wales. I was part of a project providing the first complete record of long-term climate change in that region. Winning Young Scientist of the Year was amazing and it’s been really exciting to share my enthusiasm for science with other young people.”

**ROXANNE EL-HADY** undertook her Nuffield Research Placement in the Department of Geography at Royal Holloway, University of London. In 2016 she won the Young Scientist of the Year Award for her project.

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“I worked on an ecological data science project studying moth populations in the Portland area of the US. But whatever area of science, technology or maths you’re interested in, you should definitely consider applying for a Nuffield Research Placement. The programme is so unique and it will make you stand out from the crowd after you finish school or college.”

**SARAH WALSH** completed her project at **Coventry University**.

The Nuffield Foundation funds research, analysis, and student programmes that advance educational opportunity and social well-being across the UK.

We want to improve people's lives, and their ability to participate in society, by understanding the social and economic factors that affect their chances in life.

Our student programmes – Nuffield Research Placements and Q-Step – provide opportunities for individual students, particularly those from less

well-off backgrounds, to develop their skills and confidence in quantitative and scientific methods.

With special thanks to the Wellcome Trust, Research Councils UK, and the Society for General Microbiology for their support of Nuffield Research Placements.

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[www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nrp](http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nrp)

[#NuffieldSummer](https://twitter.com/NuffieldFound)

[@NuffieldFound](https://twitter.com/NuffieldFound)

## ALSO FROM THE NUFFIELD FOUNDATION...

Q-Step: social science for the 21st century

As well as offering Nuffield Research Placements, the Nuffield Foundation works with 18 universities across the UK to provide undergraduate degrees in quantitative social science. These are called Q-Step degrees, and they are available in a range of social science subjects, from area studies to sociology and many more.

Q-Step degrees enable you to develop your quantitative skills, or in other words, your ability to handle data and use numerical evidence. These skills will enhance your insight and understanding of the big questions in your chosen field of study, as well as being valuable in the job market when you graduate.

Go to [www.nuffieldfoundation.org/q-step](http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/q-step) to find out more.