

Future Pathways: Buckinghamshire 2023/24



What is Study Higher and why do we work with care experienced young people?

Study Higher is part of a national widening participation partnership called Uni Connect. We deliver impartial outreach programmes to young people who are underrepresented in higher education; 14% of care leavers under 19 progress on to higher education, compared to 47% of all other children [[read more here](#)]. Future Pathways is our programme for care experienced young people aged 13-18, supporting them to understand their options, raise aspirations, and develop their own plans for the future. We deliver the programme across Swindon, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire in partnership with Oxford Brookes University, Oxford University, Buckinghamshire New University, Reading University and Royal Agricultural University.

Activities 2023-24

9

young people

Launch event and talk from care experienced speaker, Junior Saunders.

Higher education and apprenticeships workshops at Buckinghamshire New University.

Visit to Trinity College, Oxford University, and info about applying to higher tariff universities.

Christmas Dinner at Missenden Abbey, and end of year celebration event at Buckinghamshire New University.

Visit to Stoke Mandeville Hospital for behind the scenes tour and exploration of NHS Careers.

A three day, two night residential at Oxford Brookes University.

And a cultural trip to Warner Bros Studio!

44%

attended 4+ events

Future Pathways: Study Higher's impact in 2023/24

Education & Career pathways

What options they have post-16 and post-18

"[How did the programme help you?] Meeting people and learning about different paths"
Young person

"Their knowledge and understanding of the university process has increased."
Virtual School staff

"The day spent at Stoke Mandeville was most inspiring."
Foster carer

Confidence and motivation Academically & socially

"There has been a growth in confidence from a couple of the young people. Initially quieter young people are getting excited talking about their work and courses they might want to do in the future."
Virtual School staff

"[Future Pathways] has given her a more positive outlook."
Foster carer

"[They have] developed so much in confidence, self-worth and self-esteem...to work at two charity shops every week for a few hours developing those skills further."
Foster carer

Developing own plans for the future

"[Young person] has made exceptional progress in their self esteem and social communication skills which has brought their plans forward by a year; planning to start university this September instead of staying at home for another year. This was their dream 4 years ago."

Foster carer

"[Young person] is now looking at joining the NHS after she finishes university."
Foster carer

"I hope that I have had the opportunity to work on animated projects and finished my degree, whatever that is."
Young person

For details of the 2024/25 programme, including how to sign a young person up, please visit:
<https://www.studyhigher.ac.uk/future-pathways-bucks/>

