

# Future Pathways Swindon 2023/24

## Who is Study Higher and what is Future Pathways?

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 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, University of Oxford, Buckinghamshire New University, University of Reading and Royal Agricultural University.

## Who has engaged with Future Pathways in Swindon?

### In 2023/24 the programme engaged:

13

students engaged across

8

workshops and events

40

care-experienced young people

25%

of young people have attended for two years in a row

### Since September 2021 the programme has engaged:

## What events and activities took place in 2023/24?

An apprenticeship workshop at Royal Agricultural University (RAU), Swindon campus

A higher education workshop from RAU followed by entry to Cotswold Farm Park

Bristol Aerospace Museum robot workshop and tour

Tailored tours of New College Swindon and Cirencester College with information about further education pathways

Three-day, two-night residential at Oxford Brookes University for care-experienced students

Previous years have included trips to Renishaw PLC, Formula 1, University of Reading and Oxford Brookes University (Oxford campus)



## Confidence and motivation

*"I would like to either be at university or have a full time job either as a pilot or with real estate."*

- Student feedback

*"[My foster child] doesn't normally engage in activities/groups so this has been very unusual. He has been really happy to go and very chatty about what he's done when he gets home."*

- Carer

*"He was initially reluctant to attend sessions but has become happier to attend."*

- Carer

*"Our young person has a very clear interest but had been incredibly disengaged with school and didn't see any point in it. Following bespoke visits to a number of Post-16 and Post-18 providers, organised and funded by SH, they were able to define which provider they wanted to move on to and furthermore, discovering the academic entry requirements provided them with the focus and determination they needed in school to make that wish become a reality. They are a changed student."*

-School careers lead



## Skills and knowledge

*"The most helpful elements of the programme [were] visiting the colleges, the aerospace trip and summer camp, oh and most importantly Domino's pizza".*

- Carer

*"Made me hardworking, more resilient, helped my confidence, helped with focusing and good talker".*

- Student feedback

For details of the 2024/25 programme, including how to register a young person, please visit the Study Higher website:

<https://www.studyhigher.ac.uk/futurepathways-swindon/>