

## PROVIDERS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Nuffield Research Placements will not take place in 2020. Instead, we are providing an exciting alternative, online only programme – **Nuffield Future Researchers**.

The Nuffield Future Researcher programme will provide a meaningful and rewarding research experience where students will develop essential science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) skills by working with a professional researcher on a live research question and embark on new and innovative ways of working within a virtual learning environment. This programme helps you to:

- Support young people and diversify your workforce.
- Provide your staff with opportunities to apply and develop their coaching, mentoring and management skills.
- Work with bright, capable students to complete a variety of tasks including data analysis, scoping and research reviews.
- Fulfil your public engagement, widening participation and corporate and social responsibility goals by working with students from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Forge strong links with schools and colleges in your local area.

Supported by their research supervisor and local coordinator, students will journey through online modules and tasks, during which they will:

- **Gain** knowledge of, and confidence in, **essential professional skills**, such as communication, problem solving, and time and resource management
- **Develop research skills** such as critical thinking and using the internet as a research tool, as well as gaining understanding of different research methods and their ethical implications.
- **Build** on the **numerical skills** they have learned at school or college and learn how to gather, manage and **analyse data**.
- **Investigate**, in collaboration with a professional researcher, **a live research question**. This will include selecting the most appropriate methods to investigate the question, making good use of materials and sources available and applying the research skills and software packages identified in preceding modules.
- **Communicate** their findings by producing a **written research report and poster/video**, which will be reviewed by you, their research supervisor, and local coordinator and submitted to the Nuffield Foundation.

We would expect these modules to be completed via the following timeline:

Online module	Timeline
Essential professional skills	May
Research skills	June-August
Numerical and data analysis skills	June-August
<b>Live research question in collaboration with active researcher</b>	<b>July/August</b>
Communicate your research	July/August

### **What happens next?**

We are looking for a well-supervised but independent research project suitable for a 16/17 year-old. Projects must centre around a specific research question and build upon the essential, research, numerical and data analytical skills outlined above.

To best support your student(s) we ask that you:

- Provide activities via a virtual learning environment (VLE)
- Input constructively when giving feedback on their written research plan and final report
- Keep in touch with your student(s) via video conferencing and within the VLE.

The programme will be managed via the same network of regional coordinators and the eligibility criteria are unchanged, including the provision of bursaries of £400 for eligible students. We will also be talking to students about their homeworking environment to see if we can help.

***It would be useful to know if you think your project has any special requirements that you think we can help with e.g. access to specialist software, key resources via journal paywalls etc.***

If you have any questions, please contact your local coordinator

[www.nuffieldfoundation.org/students-teachers/nuffield-research-placements#region](http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/students-teachers/nuffield-research-placements#region).

We are grateful to the organisations for their support in Nuffield Future Researchers: British Science Association; BP – Business in the Community; Gatsby Foundation; National Numeracy; Q-Step universities; Skills Builder Partnership; and UKRI.