

BRIDGING THE GAP

for the next generation



2016-2017 Year in Review



4,000 LIFE-CHANGING talks since 2011

We are the UK's network for leading figures who are committed to inspiring young people to help level the playing field for students in state schools by sharing their insights, advice and encouragement.



Half a million students reached

96% of teachers say their talk has left a lasting impact on students

58% of talks end up with the speakers offering further opportunities

40% of schools served have above average free school meal rate

REACHING MORE students

In 2017-18 we arranged nearly 900 talks across the UK, from Elgin to Penzance, reaching 250 new schools, and arranging over 4,015 school talks to date.

1,850+ state secondary schools

1,215 leading figures

4,010 school talks

92% of local authorities reached

This year we are working to reach even more schools and students -- read below to find out how you can help.

“ I feel incredibly inspired... I feel I can achieve something great if I want to.”

OUR work

Since 2011, we have been helping bridge the gap between young people's ambitions and engagements that help change what they believe is possible. **There are four key areas to our work:**

Work Experience
Supporting our speakers' firms & organisations in reaching state school students with their invaluable work experience placements via S4SNextGen.org.

Talks that Change Perceptions
Making it possible for young people of all backgrounds to be informed, inspired & encouraged by leaders of today.

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

Joining the Dots
With a major national network of schools and esteemed organisations, we work hard to signpost related programmes & share resources with our supporters.

Campaign Series
A coalition of high-profile supporters giving talks on important themes that engage and inform students, bringing together our work with industry, employer and social initiatives.

INTRODUCING S4SNextGen



S4SNextGen.org is our new, free programme that asks teachers to nominate state school students without personal networks for exclusive placements at sector-leading organisations to build their skills and prospects. It's not yet nationally available but we will be working in 2018 to expand these special placements.



OPENING THE DOOR for the next generation



Quality Placements
Experiences that give students inspirational real-world experiences and transferable professional skills within a top firm.



Increasing Access
A focus on students without personal networks and reaching diverse students unaware or not currently considering certain industries.

Reaching New Schools
A free, safeguarded portal to reach state schools that might not be aware of existing work experience programmes.

Best-Practice & Advice
Sharing models, tips and solutions that help make hosting possible for more employers.

“ They embraced the experience with total commitment and dedication, and could easily have been mistaken for an employee given how well they worked within their teams.”

Carole Mehigan, Host, Reed Smith LLP

“ I come from a state school, and opportunities like these would not usually reach me... it has helped me make the concrete decision of becoming a journalist.”

Nashada hosted by Wikitribune

“ All kids need is that one person who cares enough to push them. So when I found out about Speakers for Schools, I knew it was something I wanted to do.”

Danny Jones



HIGHLIGHTS from the year



'Bridging the Gap' Campaign
Over 30 leading figures spoke as a part of our annual national talk series, discussing with students how to get from school to their ambitions, including Baroness Harding, former CEO of TalkTalk.



30:30:30 Campaign
Executives from VW, Kia, Inchcape and many more gave talks to help encourage girls to consider automotive, with work experience for a few lucky students.



Multi-school talks take off
In 2017 we saw more multi-school talks than ever before, including six local schools coming together in Newry, NI to hear from Bank of England Chief Economist, Andy Haldane.



Homecoming
McFly star & The Voice coach Danny Jones visited his old school in Bolton to speak about his journey, overcoming hurdles to his dream and the importance of not letting others deter you.

DOING EVEN MORE next year

Despite reaching half a million young people with our work, we know there is more to do.

A few of our top tips for getting more out of our network in 2018:

Sign up SLT

Check that your Headteacher or a member of SLT has an application with S4S - they can be a special opportunity.

More than a Talk

Some speakers are open to a post-talk careers advice session, bringing a young executive & other activities alongside an assembly style talk if you ask them during planning.

Keep an eye out...

Did you know our termly newsletters include listings for more free opportunities, related charities, resources & projects? Keep an eye out!

To find out more about the above, register your interest in our new programmes or check on your application contact Caroline.Batt@speakers4schools.org

“ It was an excellent talk... I will forever, throughout my education, take his statements into consideration.”

THANK YOU for your support



Contact us on info@speakers4schools.org

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