



Impact Report

2023-2024

Welcome

Karl Tucker Chair of Trustees

I am delighted to present this year's Impact Report showcasing the work of SBY. Once again, we have seen great results in the attendance, participation and engagement from the young people we work with on our various programmes. It is clear from the data that SBY really does make a difference to the lives of the young people and families that we work with. I remain in awe of the dedication and commitment of Camilla and her team in ensuring that the programmes we run are of the highest quality, and that they highlight the importance of education in empowering young people to pursue the very best opportunities in employment and lifelong learning.

None of the work SBY does is possible, though, without the collective endeavours and shared ambition of every stakeholder to improve the life chances of our young people. SBY harnesses the skills, expertise and enthusiasm of a huge range of partners within the local community, including schools, colleges and universities, businesses, venues, other VCSE organisations and, importantly, the parents, carers, family networks and wider community who support the young people.

I would like to personally thank each and every stakeholder for helping us to provide this amazing service to the young people of Bristol and the wider southwest region, and of course our funders without whose generosity we would not be able to do this essential work.



Camilla Chandler-Mant Chief Executive

I am thrilled that SBY continues to flourish after more than a decade of operation. In 2023/24 we worked with nearly 1800 young people across Bristol and Somerset; to make our programmes work we liaise with over 50 link teachers and school professionals who ensure the young people are prepared and ready to work with us.



The young people we work with are always prepared to get stuck in and make the most of the experiences they take part in. Without the help of both schools and families we could not operate. We thank you all.

One of our main aims is to help our young people understand and take a full and active role in their community, be it local, regional or national. We do this in a range of different ways, including visiting public services such as Avon Fire and Rescue and Police Headquarters, learning about green initiatives and how business can address environmental issues, and visiting Senedd Cymru. Every year we take most of our Key Stage 4 students to the Houses of Parliament in London. This year our visit coincided with the new MPs convening after the general election; it was fantastic that our groups could see such a historic moment, a sentiment that was confirmed by the feedback: "I enjoyed visiting the Houses of Parliament because it made me realise the impact of our voice and the importance of voting."

I would also like to acknowledge our trustees, who are critical to the smooth functioning of SBY. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their continued commitment and sustained effort to help make the organisation work. The VCSE sector could not function without this extraordinary group who contribute so much of their of time.



Check out our SBY film, highlighting all the great work we do with the young people of Bristol and Somerset!

You can also find individual programme videos on each of the programme pages on our website.

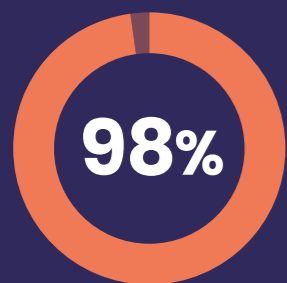
Headlines

2023/24 has been a great year - our numbers say it all!

Over 10,000 interactions

with young people and their families

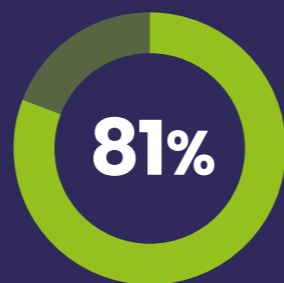
We have supported
1,771
children and young people
from Bristol and Somerset



98%
of young people
enjoyed participating
in their SBY programme
this year
(339 respondents)

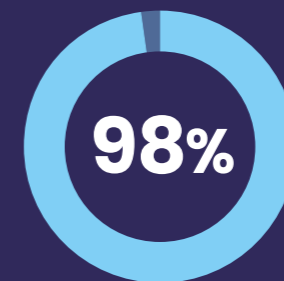


94%
of Future Quest
participants reported
that taking part had
helped them understand
the HE opportunities
available to them



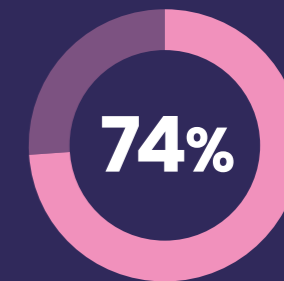
81%
of young people
participating in the
Unlocking Potential
Programme felt that their
speaking and listening
skills had improved

We have worked
with young people
from **years 4 to 13**,
in **23 schools**



Our team has
delivered almost
640 activity days with
nearly 90 partners and
delivered **83 parents/
carer meetings**

98%
progressed
to high quality
destinations, including
Apprenticeships,
FE and Sixth Forms
(SBY alumni school-leavers
July 2023)



74%
of young people felt
that their **confidence**
had improved following
participation in an
SBY programme
(596 respondents)



Our Programmes

In 2023/24 we have delivered seven programmes to young people in south Bristol and Somerset.

Our programmes are delivered through a cohort model that allows us to work with young people for at least a year, building meaningful relationships and observing and supporting their personal growth. Each programme consists of a range of exciting and engaging activities, a student and a parent/carer introductory session, and a celebration event.

F
Q **Future Quest**

Global Citizens

Insight into Apprenticeships

Green Futures

Unlocking Potential

Learning to Lead

Discover Maths



The purpose of **Future Quest** is to increase the number of young people entering higher education from underrepresented backgrounds.

This year we have provided activities for **198 young people** including:

For Yr 9:

- Bristol Old Vic Theatre Show
- UWE Campus Visit
- Communication Workshop
- Bristol Old Vic Theatre School Arts Industry Day
- Workplace Visit & Positive Mindset Workshop
- Mendip Outdoor Team Building Day

“Ollie has really enjoyed taking part in the Future Quest programme. His confidence has massively improved, pushing him to participate in new activities and communicating ideas to peers, which he would have struggled with in the past.

Long may this programme continue for future young people!”

Year 9 parent

For Yr 10:

- SGS College Post-16 Taster Day
- Psychometric Profiling Workshop
- University of Bristol Visit
- University of Gloucestershire Visit
- London Visit with Houses of Parliament Tour

“Future Quest has given students opportunities and experiences that they would not have had before; they have built confidence, formed great friendships and bonds as a group and visited places they would never have seen.

Due to their experiences students have considered new options and are more willing to travel outside of their local area for opportunities.”

Staff member,
Bridge Learning Campus

[Click here to watch our video](#)



The School's Story

Bridge Learning Campus

At Bridge Learning Campus the staff have observed many changes in the cohorts participating in the **Future Quest** programme. The Head of Year 9 said that by the end of the programme she could see the group had improved communication and the ability to work collaboratively, and that there was a greater sense of supportiveness, kindness and patience which was not always evident in the school setting.

The Deputy Head of Year 10 had similarly positive things to say. She singled out three students as particularly having improved their confidence in communication, but commented that all students had made progress or gained skills in some way.

Both staff stressed the importance of the opportunities given to the students by the trips. Head of Year 9 said:

“The Mendip trip was fantastic; the teamwork, resilience and supportiveness were all brilliant from them. I also thought the UWE trip and the communication workshop worked really well in terms of new experiences and a skills boost.”

The Deputy Head of Year 10 identified the FE college trip as the most important for her students:

“I think the SGS trip was great for the whole group, but especially some of the boys. They got to see the college when they may not have had the opportunity otherwise, or they wouldn't have considered the college as they think it is too far away. I also think the workshops were great and gave them an idea of what college is like.”



Global Citizens

Global Citizens was a pilot programme for 23/24, designed to broaden and deepen the cultural knowledge and understanding of the students by exposing them to a variety of different cultures, with the opportunity to explore potential future careers and opportunities.

This year we have provided activities for **28 young people**, which include:

- Royal Navy – Global Navy Workshop
- Museum of East Asian Art and Wagamama
- Sparks Bristol – Migration and Movement Workshop
- University of Bristol Languages Taster Day
- Somali Language and Culture Day
- Stop Motion Animation Workshop
- Welsh Language and Culture Day

[Click here to watch our video](#)



“I like how many new things I’m getting to experience. I’ve had Katsu Curry and learned some Chinese but I’ve also had to really think about how difficult life is for some people in other countries. I’m really looking forward to the next trip!”

Student

“I thought all of the activities were beneficial as they were all so different and explored a different aspect of language learning and cultural awareness. What an amazing programme and such a great opportunity for the kids.”

Staff member, Bridge Learning Campus



Casey's Story

Casey indicated that she was unsure about participating in the programme. She thought it would be interesting but she wasn't sure about how comfortable she would be with trying new things or going to new places, as she didn't like doing 'things like that'. She was encouraged to give the programme a try.

She was quiet on the first few trips but did join in and seemed to grow in confidence over time. When the group visited Wagamama as part of the East Asian Languages and Culture Day, despite her reservations about trying new foods she said she'd try something from the children's menu as the sauce came separately from the rice, vegetables and chicken. With encouragement from her friends, she gave it a go and said she didn't mind it (high praise)!

As the programme progressed, she was increasingly happy to participate and, on the Somali Language and Culture Day, willingly tried on some of the traditional clothes and ate the Somali stew we were served for lunch. The member of school staff observed that she had seen a real shift in Casey's confidence in trying new things and it was fantastic to see.

By the final Welsh Language and Culture trip to the Senedd, Casey was keen to ask questions of the people running the various activities and even asked the guide to help her pronounce a Welsh word she found tricky. She was also very excited to go on a boat for the first time which was a massive step forward for someone who thought she didn't like to try new things!



Insight into Apprenticeships

Our **Insight into Apprenticeships** programme has been running for seven years, helping hundreds of students in year 9 or 10 understand the opportunities provided by apprenticeships and how to access them.

This year we have worked with **7 schools** and **105 young people** in Somerset, and **9 schools** and **120 young people** in Bristol. Our activities have included:

Somerset

Workshops and Skills:

- Communicate with Confidence
- Psychometric Profiling
- Royal Navy Problem Solving Day
- Mendip Teambuilding

Visits:

- Boston Tea Party
- Wessex Water
- Hinkley Point C
- Weston College & Bridgwater and Taunton College
- Met Office
- Bristol 'Explore the City', with Platform Rail

Bristol

Workshops and Skills:

- Mendip Teambuilding
- Royal Navy Problem Solving
- Professional Skills Session

Visits:

- Weston College with Platform Rail
- SGS College Taster Day
- Boston Tea Party
- Bristol Port
- London Visit with Houses of Parliament Tour



[Click here to watch our video](#)



Samuel's Story

At the start of the programme Samuel and his mum were concerned about why he had been selected for **Insight into Apprenticeships**; mum thought it might have been because he was struggling in school. She was assured by the programme lead that his teachers had put him forward as they believed he might benefit from learning more about apprenticeships as a future option for him. They were both very grateful and open-minded about the different activities.

Samuel has always been an enthusiastic member of the cohort; he has attended all the activities with a positive attitude and stepped out of his comfort zone on many occasions. The trip that particularly stood out for Samuel was the SGS College WISE campus visit. This day was designed to give the students a taste of the training element of an apprenticeship (80% of an apprentice's time is learning on the job and 20% is learning skills with a training provider). The students took part in different course workshops and had a tour of the campus. Sean's mum called that evening:

"Samuel has come home buzzing about today! He didn't stop talking and he hardly ever talks, especially about anything to do with school. He really liked the fact that there was another school there and one of his friends was in that group. I spoke to his friend's mum and we both said how much our sons have grown in confidence since the start of the programme, it is really helping our two lads. Samuel was talking about the ESport session, I wasn't 100% sure what it was! I'm going to look at the college with him and see what courses they do so he can start getting an idea of what he wants to do. Thank you so much."

We hope Samuel continues to try out new experiences and finds the right pathway for him.

"Before doing Insight into Apprenticeships I hadn't thought about what I would do after school at all. I'm still not sure what I want to do, but I think an apprenticeship would be a good option as you get paid and get a qualification."

Student

"The programme gives students a head start amongst their peers. It allows them experiences to write about in their CVs and applications, something that students often struggle with. The group this year have been fantastic at getting involved; they have stepped out of their comfort zones and taken up every challenge. This will really help them with their future pathways."

Staff member,
Bishop Fox School



Green Futures

The **Green Futures** programme is designed to support young people to understand and develop green skills, and to explore the range of green jobs and opportunities available to them in the future.

We were excited to expand our Green Futures programme in its second year, working with **6 schools** and **90 young people**. Activities included:

- Psychometric Profiling Workshop
- Green Industries Days
- Sparks Bristol – Field to Fashion Workshop
- The ‘Climate Fresk’
- Work Experience Project Days
- UWE Bristol Campus Visit and Celebration Event

[Click here to watch our video](#)

“I had a really good day. I learned about this project and about the environmental sustainability side of it. Thank you!”

Student

“I had a great day today! I really enjoyed going to see the site and being outdoors, as well as learning about the species in the area and the steps being taken to tackle climate change. Thank you!”

Student



Partnership Working Case Study

The global challenge to meet NetZero has inspired the **Green Futures** programme to bring together the expertise of both typically ‘green’ businesses, and those who are keen to invest in green skills and initiatives for their future workforce.

We have had an incredible response from business partners this year, welcoming partnerships with SPARKS Bristol, Watershed Bristol, Balfour Beatty, DETI & the Department of Architecture and Environment at UWE, Burges Salmon, City Hall & the Bristol WORKS team, and PYTCH.

We have also had volunteer support from Climate Fresk, Babcock, FNC, Wardell Armstrong, DNV, ISG Construction, Airbus, Boeing, Atkins Realis, Babbasa, Bristol City Leap, Graphic Science, Farrans, and Wessex Water. The level of engagement from these supporters highlights the rapidly growing concern with the need for green skills in the younger generation and it has been great to show our young people the wide range of jobs they might be able to do in their ‘green’ future.



Unlocking Potential

Unlocking Potential is designed to improve speaking, listening and communication skills through drama, film, performance and presentation activities. The aim is that students engage better in their education and more effectively in the classroom.

[Click here to watch our video](#)

This year we have worked with **7 schools** and **98 young people** in years 7 & 8, providing activities including:

- Bristol Zoo Project
- Aerospace Bristol
- Bristol Old Vic Theatre Visit
- Arts Day at University of Bristol
- Digital Day at Gloucestershire County Cricket Club
- Professional Skills Day at Burges Salmon
- Team Communication Day at Goblin Combe

“My daughter has really enjoyed taking part and it has been nice seeing her confidence grow. Before she started, she wouldn’t even go and pay in a shop but now she has the confidence to do this, so I am very grateful that she was given this opportunity.”

Parent



Bristol Cricket Centre



Aminata's Story

When the SBY Programme Lead first met Aminata she was shy and quiet, clearly uncomfortable with making eye contact or smiling at a new adult. The member of school staff explained that it took some time for Aminata to feel comfortable enough to speak with new adults, and that **Unlocking Potential** was going to be a real challenge for her as it was going to put her into new environments and push her to speak to new adults.

Over the course of the programme there was a slow but steady shift in Aminata's confidence. On the first trip to Bristol Zoo Project, she was unwilling - even with support - to speak to the volunteers to ask questions. By the time she attended Professional Skills Day she greeted the session lead with a 'Hi' and a smile, and was able to deliver her speech to the group.

Her parent/carer also told us that she had been unable to even go to pay for something in a shop herself when she began the programme but by the end she had developed the confidence to do so.



Learning to Lead

The **Learning to Lead** programme works with students and families in years 5 & 6, and in their transition to year 7. The programme aims to build confidence, self-worth, leadership skills and encourage engagement with the school and their local community.

This year we have worked with **174 young people** across **8 schools**. Activities have included:

- Catamaran Canoeing on Bristol Harbour
- Visits to Avon & Somerset Police Headquarters
- Workshops with the Royal Navy
- Theatre Visits
- Forest School
- Avon Fire and Rescue
- Clifton Suspension Bridge

 [Click here to watch our video](#)



Ellie's Story

At the start of **Learning To Lead** Ellie was incredibly shy and embarrassed, and would not speak in a small group setting. She smiled a lot and seemed pleased to have been chosen and attended all the activities over the two years. Ellie particularly loved the memory book sessions and taking the time to reflect on her experiences. School described her as very quiet and as a child who was isolated and struggled to make friends. Her teacher noted she only spoke when she really had to. It took time but Ellie gradually began to speak occasionally or answer direct questions on activities.

By the end of year 6, having taken part in Learning To Lead for two years, the difference in Ellie is remarkable. On the final trip to visit Bristol's landmarks she was playing tag with the group, laughing, actively participating and able to ask questions at the Aquarium, as well as request her drink in a café. The school believe the opportunity to flourish in a smaller group outside of the classroom has enabled her to find her voice and now she is able to explain her difficulties and challenges to trusted adults, which has meant they could address her concerns around transition.

A school member of staff said,

“Learning To Lead gave Ellie a chance to relax, feel comfortable in a smaller group and we now see a different side to her.”

Ellie told us she feels her confidence has grown in school and that she now feels able “to stick up for herself”; she added that “trips outside of school help me learn better.”



Discover Maths

The **Discover Maths** programme has been developed to enable students to gain a better understanding of how maths in the classroom links to maths in the real world.

We have worked with **7 schools** and **104 young** people. Activities include:

Workshops and Skills:

- Circus of Physics at Gloucestershire County Cricket Club
- DETI (UWE) and Bristol Robotics Laboratory
- CFMS (Centre for Modelling and Simulation)

Visits:

- Aerospace Bristol
- Underfall Yard
- Clifton Suspension Bridge
- Coutts Bank
- Warner Bros. Studios Tour

“The whole programme has been fantastic for Ben, being able to see the real-world applications of what they learn is something they don’t get to see in school. The trips have all been informative and varied, and most have been in the local area, which is relevant to where they live and may be looking to work in the future.”

The final trip to the Harry Potter Studios was just such a great way to end the programme. Not only doing something fun but there is so much to learn there as well.”

Parent

 [Click here to watch our video](#)



Megan’s Story

Megan was clearly nervous and barely spoke in the introduction meeting. Her parents let us know that they were keen to encourage her to participate, but weren’t sure she’d go on any of the trips as this programme would be a massive step for her for a range of reasons. We agreed to work together to try to help Megan to overcome the barriers she had.

Megan made it to the first trip but struggled to work with others in group tasks, instead working with one of the adults. By the next trip, Megan was able to quietly participate in group activities and had begun to interact more with other young people in the group.

With each trip she did more of the maths tasks, and even began to share her ideas with the students she worked with. The teachers told us they had seen the same shift in her, as she became chattier with other students and more confident that her ideas about the maths tasks were right and would be useful to others. Her parents told us that she really enjoyed the programme and that it helped her to gain confidence in maths and interacting with other students, as well as helping her create new friendships.

“The main impact is definitely the confidence with which the students now engage in their lessons. I teach one student for Science and there is a noticeable difference with how they engage and interact with discussions and work. Three students have actually gone up a set in Maths from this cohort, and one student from the previous year’s cohort has done the same. It is clear to see a shift in attitude and self-belief for the vast majority of students who take part in this programme.” [Link teacher](#)

Other Projects

We are led by the needs of the young people that we work with.

We are pleased to be able to respond to these needs with additional projects, each with specific core aims and outcomes. These included:

- SBY Youth Board
- Employability Skills Workshops
- Careers Advice and Workshops
- Communication Workshops
- Empowerment Week
- Bespoke Work Experience Opportunities

Empowerment Week

Empowerment Week empowers, builds confidence, and provides a voice for young women and non-binary young people.

This year the Bristol Beacon hosted creative workshops for 15 students from Bridge Learning Campus and Oasis Academy Brislington. The programme of activities was co-created by the participants, exploring themes of identity and feminism through activities such as music-making, movement, public speaking and visits to cultural organisations.

Projects developed by students included music & dance pieces, essays, speeches, drama sketches and DJ mixes. Empowerment Week aims to make a long-lasting positive difference, encouraging participants to engage further with cultural activity across the city and gain a greater sense of agency and wellbeing.



[Click here to watch our video](#)

New Programmes for 2024

This year we have some exciting new projects on offer for our young people and we cannot wait for them to start.

We have the opportunity to expand our Green Futures programme to even more schools this year, reaching across the whole of the West of England region, and have developed an additional programme that supports employers who would like to work with young people but are new to offering experiences of the workplace.

We are also launching our Elevating Excellence programme, which seeks to motivate participants to value their talents and intelligence and the opportunities these create, and to achieve the highest possible outcomes available to them. The programme will expose participants to broad and high-quality potential future pathways, including high tariff universities and courses, degree level apprenticeships, and opportunities for innovation and entrepreneurship.



Thank You

Thank you to all our supporters, funders, schools and universities who continue to help us Empower Young People to Succeed. Without your continued support we could not deliver the high-quality programmes that are vital to our students in south Bristol and the wider area.

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Fairfield Charitable Trust
Frankham Family Charitable Trust
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Bristol Old Vic Theatre School
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Jacobs
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Mendip Outdoors
Mercure Bridgwater
Met Office
Museum of East Asian Art
Museum of Somerset
Nigel Smith – Stop Mo Studios
Oddly Moving
Origin Workspace
Oxford University
Patch Productions

Platform Rail
Pro Apprenticeships
Redgrave Theatre
Royal Navy
Senedd Cymru
SGS College
Somerset Freemasons
SPARKS Bristol
St Brendan's Sixth Form College
Thatchers
The Bristol Music Trust –
Bristol Beacon
Tobacco Factory Theatres
Underfall Yard
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South Bristol Consortium for Young People,
Narrow Quay House, Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA

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