

The need

PROBLEM

In the South West, fewer young people from under resourced backgrounds progress to Higher Education than in any other English region.

Levels of high attainment for disadvantaged children in the South West are consistently amongst the lowest nationally, at every stage of the school journey.

As a result, there are more barriers on the pathway to higher education for under resourced young people in the South West than almost anywhere in the country.

Underlying these problems are the challenges of educational isolation and a lack of system wide collaboration and cradle to career support to help under resourced young people to attain highly and remain on the pathway from primary school to an undergraduate degree.

PEOPLE

We support young people, teachers and school leaders in the South West of England.

REASON

Every child deserves the opportunity to access higher education.

The work

PARTNERS

1. School and Multi Academy Trusts
2. Teacher professional development providers
3. Parents and carers
4. Universities & Higher education institutions
5. Employers and businesses
6. Philanthropic donors
7. Charities
8. Local and national policymakers

INTERVENTIONS

1. Directly support the attainment and aspiration of under resourced children
2. Develop teachers and school leaders to better support high attainment
3. Bring together schools, trusts, universities, parents, carers and other stakeholders to support continued high attainment.

INPUTS

1. University partnerships
2. Funding from trusts, foundations and individuals
3. Funding and in-kind support from employers and business
4. Communications, awareness raising, convening and partnerships building

BEHAVIORS

1. Policymakers create policy/provide resource to support SW and high attainers as priority areas
2. MATs acknowledge high attainment as a priority and make policy decisions to support this
3. Teachers and leaders regularly review, reflect upon and develop impact of teaching practice on high attainment and project expectation of HE progression
4. University's approach to access and participation more effectively supports high attainment and HE progression: working with schools and MATs, longitudinal/upstream approach, acknowledging regional contexts
5. Parents and carers actively support high attainment and communicate/support potential for HE progression

BIG IDEA

Create equity for under resourced children by bringing together schools and universities to enable high attainment, from playground to PhD.

A school-centred approach, rooted in knowledge of needs of high attainers and of the South West context.

MISSION

A school-centred charity keeping under resourced children in the South West on the pathway to higher education by supporting pupils, developing teachers and enabling cross-system collaboration.

The results

SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES

- Increased awareness of high attainers as priority area in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset.
- *Your Future Story* programme established.
- School partnership and teacher & leader CPD programmes established.

OUTPUTS

1. Number of children directly supported
2. Number of teachers/leaders engaging in training
3. Number of partner schools/MATs
4. Number of partner universities

PATHWAYS

- Universities
- MATs and schools
- Other charities
- Employers and businesses
- Trust and Foundations
- Private philanthropy

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

- Increased high attainment in Cornwall, Devon, Somerset in primary and secondary schools.
- Improved progression to HE in Devon, Cornwall and Somerset.

10-YEAR TARGET

- By 2035, double the progression rate to top third universities for disadvantaged students in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset.

VISION

A South West where background is no barrier to higher education.