

Imperial College
London

Working with universities to provide opportunities for underrepresented communities

Dr Annalisa Alexander
Head of Outreach
Imperial College London

What this talk will cover

- Why should you work with universities?
 - What universities can provide your school with
 - **Case Study: Meet the Researcher Webinar series**
 - University-school partnerships – do they work?
 - **Case Study: The OPEN Learning Partnership**
 - Maximising STEM opportunities for all
 - **Case Study: The Pimlico Connection**
 - Routes for A-level students
 - **Case Study: The Makerspace at White City**
-

Why work with universities?

- All Universities are required to provide extensive outreach programmes
- They have been given ambitious and stretching recruitment targets by the Office for Students
- Failure to meet those targets and milestones will result in them not being able to charge the full tuition fee amount (£9,250)

HOWEVER

- Most universities **want** to diversify their student population
 - They recognise that students from underrepresented backgrounds face significant challenges and barriers
-

What can universities provide your school with?

- **Outreach programmes:**
 - Summer schools
 - In-school tutoring
 - Campus visits
 - Webinars
 - Some provide CPD
 - Parent/guarding information
 - Information, Advice and Guidance for KS4 and KS5 (and often younger)
 - **Strategic partnerships:**
 - Collaborative programmes
-

Outreach portfolio at Imperial

Our current programmes

	Access to Imperial	Raising attainment in STEM	Raising expectations and ambitions	Local and civic engagement
Contextual admissions schemes	Yellow			
Imperial College London Mathematics School*	Diagonal lines	Cyan	Magenta	Green
Cohort programmes	Yellow	Cyan	Magenta	
• STEM Potential and STEM Futures				
• Pathways to Medicine* and Levelling Up*				
Summer schools	Yellow	Dark Blue	Magenta	
Mentoring & tutoring	Yellow	Cyan	Dark Blue	
• mA*ths and Further mA*ths Online*				
• The Access Project, Homework Club* and Pimlico Connection	Diagonal lines	Cyan	Magenta	
School visits	Diagonal lines	Dark Blue	Magenta	
Makerspace and White City*		Dark Blue	Magenta	Green
Reach Out Lab*		Cyan	Magenta	Diagonal lines
STEM in Action and TWIG Reporter*		Cyan	Magenta	
ExpertEd* and primary activities		Cyan	Magenta	

*includes external funding contribution

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/schools-outreach/secondary-schools/stem-events/meet-the-researcher-webinar-series/. The page features a dark blue navigation bar with links for 'Primary schools', 'Secondary schools', 'Wohl Reach Out Lab', 'Dangoor Reach Out Makerspace', 'Outreach events', and 'About the Outreach Team'. A left-hand sidebar contains a menu with categories like 'STEM programmes', 'STEM events', 'STEM lectures and demonstrations', 'Newlands Lecture Series', 'Meet the Researcher Webinar Series' (highlighted in pink), 'Mentoring and tutoring', 'Summer schools', 'Post-16 resources and events', 'Imperial campus tours', 'Teacher CPD', and 'STEM in Action'. Below the sidebar is a purple box for the 'Outreach newsletter' with a sign-up link and a shield icon. The main content area has a large teal banner with the text 'MEET THE RESEARCHER' and various scientific icons. Below the banner is a pink box with a description of the webinar series. At the bottom, there is a white box with the title 'Meet the Researcher Webinars Series' and a partial description, and a pink box titled 'At a glance' with more details.

Primary schools Secondary schools Wohl Reach Out Lab Dangoor Reach Out Makerspace Outreach events About the Outreach Team

Meet the Researcher Webinar Series

MEET THE RESEARCHER

The Meet the Researcher Webinar Series offers the opportunity to hear from current PhD students and postdoctoral researchers about their research, interest in science, and journey to university.

Meet the Researcher Webinars Series

Have you ever wondered what researchers at Imperial actually do? Meet the

At a glance

These webinars are aimed at students in Years 12 and 13 but everyone of all ages are welcome to

School-university partnerships – do they work?

- **Working strategically with a university can be advantageous**
 - **Creating collaborative programmes**
 - **Securing funding (external or DfE)**
 - **Sharing of specialist expertise**
 - **Demonstrating the application of your curriculum**
 - **Brings additional resources (IAG) to your schools**
 - **The OfS is now actively encouraging such partnerships as part of the changes to the Access and Participation Plans**
 - **Its worth looking to your ‘local’ university for ideas....**
-



State schools: Thomas Deacon Academy, Kettering Buccleuch Academy, Prince William School, Oundle Primary, Spratton Primary

Independent Schools: Laxton Junior School, Oundle School

Higher Education: Imperial College London

Maximising STEM Opportunities for all

- **In school support:**
 - Hands-on STEM is always a winner
 - Using the EPQ to encourage research and deeper thinking
 - After-school clubs or lunchtime 'top up' sessions for complex concepts
 - Bringing in external support (tutoring, aspirational speakers, alumni)
 - **Support elsewhere:**
 - Encouraging Science Capital at home (talking, visits to museums, learning as a family)
 - Trips to university campuses
 - There is a wealth of support online through 'learned societies'
-

imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/schools-outreach/secondary-schools/mentoring-and-tutoring/pimlico-connection/

Schools Outreach

Primary schools Secondary schools Wohl Reach Out Lab Dangoor Reach Out Makerspace Outreach events About the Outreach Team

Home / Be inspired / Schools Outreach / Secondary schools / Mentoring and tutoring / Pimlico Connection

Pimlico Connection

This programme raises aspirations for higher education by providing students with positive role models for STEM subjects.

Secondary schools

- STEM programmes
- STEM events
- Mentoring and tutoring
 - mA*ths Online Programme
 - Further mA*ths Online Programme
 - Pimlico Connection**
 - The Homework Club in White City
 - Imperial CREST Academy
- Summer schools
- Post-16 resources and events
- Imperial campus tours
- Teacher CPD
- STEM in Action

Routes to HE for A-level students

- **Start early!!**
 - Inform subject choice from KS3
 - Encourage conversations around post-16 routes
 - Campus visits and tours (online too) – attending open days
 - It's the COURSE that matters (not where their mates go....)
 - Understanding the longer term value of a degree versus the initial cost
 - **Information, Advice and Guidance**
 - Reach out to FE and HE institutions
 - Consider career coaching or mentoring
 - Role models/inspirational speakers
-

Focus on Key Stage 4 and post-16 programmes & activities

Activities included in our APP portfolio

*includes external funding contribution

		Key Stage 4		Post-16		
	← Early Secondary	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13	→ HE transition
STEM Potential		Magenta		Orange		
STEM Potential satellite programmes*		Magenta		Orange		
STEM Futures cohort programme for Black students		Magenta		Orange		
The Access Project attainment raising based in schools		Magenta		Orange		
Levelling Up digital programme*				Orange		
Pathways to Medicine*				Orange		
mA*ths and Further mA*ths Online*				Orange		
Summer schools	Cyan	Magenta		Orange		
Imperial College London Mathematics School*				Orange		
School visits – digital and campus	Cyan	Magenta		Orange		
Meet the Researcher webinars				Orange		

A final thought....

- **Its never too young to think about careers and courses**
 - The earlier you start those conversations, the better informed pupils are
 - Involving parents and carers is vital (but can be tricky)
 - Make it fun and normalise HE language in the classroom
 - **Where do you go to find out more?**
 - Search for 'outreach' programmes online with:
 - Higher Education
 - Further Education
 - Local/National industry
 - Third party organisations (the Sutton Trust, Brightside, IntoUniversity)
-

Imperial College
London

Thank you!

Any Questions?

outreach@imperial.ac.uk

