

Evaluation of the Speakers for Schools IntoTech Programme

Dear Parent / Guardian,

We are writing to let you know that your child's school is participating in the Evaluation of the Speakers for Schools IntoTech programme from January – July 2025. The IntoTech programme is being delivered by Speakers for Schools (SfS), jointly funded by SfS and the Hg Foundation and evaluated by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER), in partnership with ImpactEd Evaluation. SfS is responsible for the delivery of the IntoTech activities in your child's school.

What does the IntoTech Programme involve?

In participating schools, all Year 10 and 11 pupils will have access to tech-focused inspirational talks and selected Year 10 and 11 pupils will have access to tech-focused employer insight days and work experience. Inspirational talks, which last approximately one hour, will be delivered in person in the school, insight days (c.3 hours) and work experience (3 days) will be facilitated either in person on the employer's premises or virtually.

What are the evaluation activities for my child?

The evaluation will include two key activities:

- school case studies which will include focus groups with some pupils
- the collection of monitoring data on pupil participation in the SfS IntoTech activities

The case-study pupil focus groups will explore their views on the IntoTech activities they have participated in and how they have benefitted from them. The focus groups will be undertaken face-to-face on school premises.

Why is my child being offered this opportunity?

Participation in the IntoTech Programme will be completely free to you and your child. It is being delivered by Speakers for Schools, the largest social mobility charity in the UK who have supported more than 1.6 million young people by partnering with educators, speakers and employers from across the UK.

The evaluation will explore the perceptions of the delivery and early outcomes of the IntoTech pilot programme. Learning from the pilot evaluation will inform the future development and funding of the IntoTech Programme for the benefit of a larger number of schools and pupils.

All we would ask of you is that you help us to maximise the benefits of the IntoTech Programme for your child by encouraging them to attend inspirational talks and apply for any insight days or work experience opportunities made available to them.

The privacy notice, which can be found here: <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/for-schools/participate-in-research/participate-in-research-projects/evaluation-of-the-intotech-programme/> explains what data will be collected about your child as part of this pilot. If you do not wish this data about your child to be shared, please return the withdrawal form to your child's school.

Data protection and privacy

Some basic data about your child will be collected from your child's school (e.g., name, gender, date of birth, unique pupil number) as well as whether they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), have English as an Additional Language, are a looked after child in the care of the local authority (LAC) and attendance/participation in IntoTech activities. All data for each child will be kept strictly confidential and only



used for delivering and evaluating the programme. All parties comply with GDPR requirements and have robust GDPR procedures in place.

Further information about this evaluation can be found on the project web page <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/for-schools/participate-in-research/participate-in-research-projects/evaluation-of-the-intotech-programme/>

The web page includes links to a range of study privacy notices, including one for parents/carers/pupils. The pupil privacy notice summarises what personal data will be collected on your son or daughter, and how this data will be collected, used, shared and protected. **No pupil or school will be named in any report arising from this work.**

How can I withdraw my child from the evaluation?

If you are happy for your child's data to be used for this research, **you do not need to do anything**. Although we value their participation in this evaluation and its contribution to important findings, you can withdraw your child from data collection activities at any time before July 2025. After that we will not be able to identify your child's data. If you withdraw your child from the project, we will use any data we have collected up to that point in our analysis unless you ask us to delete it. If you wish to withdraw your child's data please contact the evaluation team at speakersforschools@nfer.ac.uk

Note that withdrawing from the evaluation will not impact your child's involvement in the IntoTech activities, just their inclusion in the evaluation.

If, at this stage, you would prefer your child's data not to be shared, stored and used for this research, please complete the form below and return it to your child's school.

Who can I contact for further information?

If you have any queries, please contact us via email at: speakersforschools@nfer.ac.uk.

Yours sincerely,

NFER, SfS and ImpactEd Evaluation



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Withdrawal form from data processing for parents**

You only need to complete this form if you **DO NOT** wish your child's data to be shared, stored and used for this evaluation.

I **DO NOT** give permission for data about my child that is collected as part of the delivery or evaluation to be stored or used for research purposes.

Your child's name.....

Name of school.....

Your full name.....

Your signature..... Date.....