

FUTURE FIRST



SUPPORTER/PARTNER PROGRAMMES

ABOUT US

Social mobility charity Future First has a vision for a world where a young person's start in life does not limit their future and to create a society that harnesses talent from all social backgrounds.

Our mission is for every state school and college in the UK to be supported by a thriving and engaged alumni community that equips young people with the skills and confidence to reach their potential and contribute fully to society. We work predominantly with learners aged 11-18.

We work with employers, alumni, umbrella organisations and volunteers to provide young people with experiences of the world of work: workshops, insight days, mentoring, resources and more.

We manage these relationships through our Future First Hub – a safe, social media style interface that allows our member schools to build and manage every aspect of their alumni and employer network in one place. In this way, digital is so much more than technology.

PUTTING THEIR FUTURE FIRST

Young people face an uncertain future - arguably the most challenging for a generation. By the time they take their GCSEs, disadvantaged pupils are over 18.1 months of learning behind their peers. Our partnership work helps to rebalance the scales, tackle barriers to social mobility, and embeds diversity into historically gatekept industries, careers and opportunities. There are unlimited benefits to joining forces, all of which are underpinned by our core principles:



**BUILDING
SOCIAL
CAPITAL**



**MOTIVATING
EMPLOYEES WITH
LEARNING AND
DEVELOPMENT
OPPORTUNITIES**



**CREATING AN
INCLUSIVE
ENVIRONMENT**

**HELPING
YOUNG PEOPLE
RECOVER FROM
THE PANDEMIC**



**CHAMPIONING
EQUALITY +
DIVERSITY IN
YOUR
WORKPLACE**



**INCREASING
YOUR DIVERSITY
AND TALENT
PIPELINE**



WHY WE WORK WITH EMPLOYERS AND UMBRELLA ORGANISATIONS

Individuals from lower socio-economic backgrounds are under-represented in professional occupations. This is not because of a lack of hard work or talent but instead because of a lack of opportunity. This is an issue for society and business.

Forward-looking companies and umbrella organisations are seeking to increase socio-economic diversity in their workforce, giving them access to a wider recruitment pool, and greater cognitive diversity, higher employee engagement and potentially lower turnover. We work with you to challenge stereotypes and raise the profile of your sector, creating an inclusive environment, championing equality and diversity in the workplace.

We do this by directly connecting schools with employers, alumni and volunteers to provide young people with meaningful encounters with the working world. For employers, as well as increasing their diversity and talent pipeline, this also provides them with an opportunity to directly support their local community while also giving their staff meaningful and rewarding volunteering opportunities inspiring the next generation.

OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS



WE'VE BUILT 1250+
ALUMNI NETWORKS IN
STATE SCHOOLS AND
COLLEGES



WE'VE CONNECTED
465K+ YOUNG
PEOPLE WITH AN
ALUMNI NETWORK



WE'VE WORKED
WITH 109,000+
VOLUNTEERS

ENGAGE WITH US AT THE RIGHT LEVEL FOR YOUR ORGANISATION AND STAFF

Join us as a Future First Partner or Supporter

We will work with you to understand the right partnership level for you, by understanding your corporate social responsibility goals and supporting you to achieve them, including:

Creating an inclusive and diverse workforce



Reach your future employees and put a spotlight on your sector: increase socio-economic diversity and unlock hidden talent.

Increasing employee engagement and retention with volunteering



Give your employees meaningful and rewarding volunteering opportunities, such as giving talks in schools about their career.

Improving the community in which you operate



Inspire and support students local to your workplace in pursuit of their aspirations and goals.

TO ACHIEVE THIS, WE WORK WITH ORGANISATIONS IN A RANGE OF DIFFERENT WAYS...



Menu of opportunities

1. GROW AWARENESS OF SOCIAL MOBILITY AND FUTURE FIRST AMONGST YOUR EMPLOYEES

A Lunch & Learn session with the voice of our learners at its heart.

2. SECTOR AWARENESS AND TALENT PIPELINE

We work with your talent acquisition team to promote early careers opportunities, break down stereotypes and promote your sector. Includes metrics and reporting. Our dedicated regional team works with you on activities such as:

- Creation of resources to feature on the Future First Hub
- Bespoke apprenticeship application programme
- Virtual work experience: accessible by 1,000s of learners each year
- In school networking events/insight visits to your premises
- Mentoring opportunities

3. IN-PERSON AND ONLINE VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR STAFF / MEMBERS

Your staff can inspire young people by telling their stories. Did they take an unusual pathway to reach this point in their career? What qualifications are needed to do the job they do? Whether it's giving a talk at their old school or working with us to co-design a sector awareness programme, employees can take part in structured volunteering activities or register with our National Network of volunteers. If your employees are remote, pressed for time or desk based, we have a range of virtual volunteering opportunities to engage students.

4. SPONSOR A SCHOOL IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Fund a school in your chosen location to become a Future First member. We will work with them to develop a sustainable alumni network: they will receive annual Future First membership: resources, expert advice and guidance. You will receive an annual report of their progress and have the opportunity to provide staff for volunteering opportunities.

5. FUNDRAISE: TO CATALYSE FUTURE FIRST'S RESEARCH

Provide employees with access to Future First's menu of corporate fundraising opportunities: fun, team building activities that allow employees to fundraise for local schools – supporting alumni development in your communities.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT

Your support is acknowledged on our website and we provide you with marketing collateral to promote your engagement. You also receive our regular social mobility newsletter with details of our work across the UK to see what's happening at a national level.

FOR UMBRELLA/MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

We can work with you to devise a member outreach offer, reporting annually on volunteer reach. This is a powerful way to show the collective impact of your members and your sector role.

IN-PERSON AND ONLINE VOLUNTEERING

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1. FLEXIBLE OPPORTUNITIES

The large majority of our opportunities involve inspiring young people with your story and supporting them to understand the post-16 options available to them. Whether you're pressed for time, remote or available in person we have a range of opportunities including:

- Speaking at a virtual assembly.
- Featuring on a poster about your career.
- Writing a blog or creating a video.
- Volunteering in-person in schools.

2. ENGAGING REGIONAL EMPLOYEES AND HOMEWORKERS

Opportunities to get involved in their local community or volunteering online include:

- Sign up for [The National Network](#), a UK-wide community of volunteers, schools and students.
- Use their volunteering day to support schools in their area.
- Fundraise to support schools in their area.

3. IN-PERSON INSIGHT DAYS

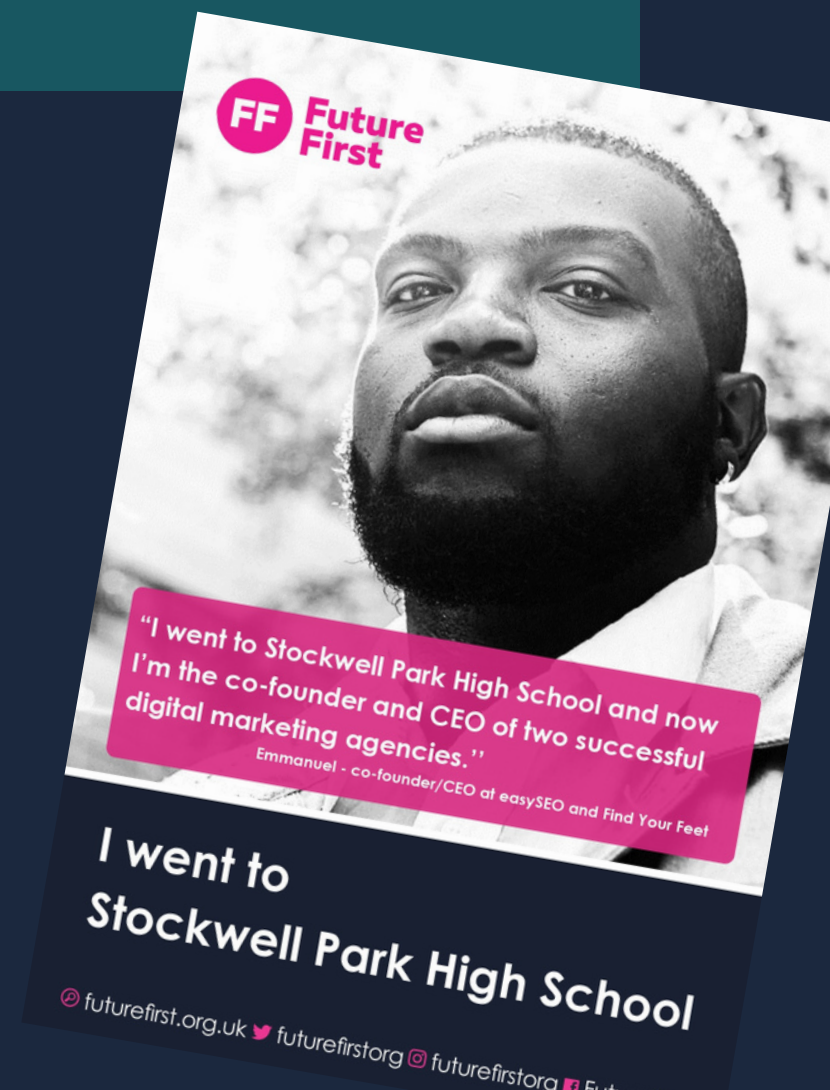
Insight days give students a unique look into the workplace. We will work with your volunteers to coordinate activities to showcase roles and activities available within your organisation in schools close to your workbase.



99%
of employee volunteers
felt satisfied from helping
young people/giving back
to society

80%
Report benefits for
communication,
influencing and
relationship skills

100%
of volunteers
recommend
volunteering with us
to a colleague



FLAGSHIP EVENTS 2024

Bring your employees together and show your support by joining key events in 2024.



PEDAL TO PARIS 2024



Get your office buzzing, excited and united with Olympic Games fever by bringing your teams together to take on the virtual journey to Paris, the 2024 host city.

Whether it's on their Peloton, at the gym or cycling in their local area, your employees have just under a month to clock up 300 miles, starting on Monday 1 July and finishing in time for the opening ceremony on Friday 26 July.

Every mile you complete represents one of the 300 schools Future First works with, so your team can be spurred on by the difference they are making.

We'll support you to set up your company JustGiving event, provide instructions for employees on how to join the team, as well as our top tips on how you can maximise the event for employee team-building, staff morale and uniting multi-sites/regional teams.

GET MOBILE FOR A SOCIALLY MOBILE SOCIETY

Are you ready for a month of movement? Complete 30 minutes of activity for 30 days to raise money and awareness for social mobility charity, Future First, while uniting your team behind a shared goal.

Your staff can get mobile however they want; whether that's 5k a day, 30 minutes of yoga or a different activity every single day, this challenge is inclusive for your whole workforce by being suitable to all fitness levels. What's more, your teams can clock up their minutes on their own outside of work, or join forces together, with everything from a lunchtime Zoom Pilates session to a weekly walking team meeting.

As well as supporting you to get set up for the event, we can share with you an A-Z list of activities for any keen to try out something different.

By getting mobile and raising money, you will be supporting Future First's work helping young people to broaden their horizons, reach their potential and ultimately create a more socially mobile society.

15 ways to create a fun, one-team culture all year-round while making a positive impact for young people

1. BATTLE OF THE BATTENBURGS

Encourage your team to showcase their baking skills. Run a company-wide donate-to-vote baking competition, or just go with a good old fashioned bake sale.



2. SKILLS AUCTION

What unique and special talents do your employees have? Whether it's guitar lessons to homemade dinners, auction your skills and services to the highest bidder.

3. WEEKEND UNPLUGGED

Challenge your team to unplug from technology for a weekend. Sponsors can contribute for every hour spent device-free.



4. MASS PARTICIPATION CHALLENGES

Get the team together to take on a challenge event. Have a laugh in a Santa suit for London's annual charity Santa dash, build camaraderie by taking on the Three Peaks Challenge or speak to us about holding a virtual event for remote teams, such as A Mile a Day in May or Jog on January.

5. DRESS DOWN DAYS

Implement a casual dress code in exchange for a small donation. Are your employees largely remote and casual dress is the usual norm? Then opt for a company-wide dress up day and impress your colleagues with your wardrobe finery.

6. LUNCH AND LEARN

Do you have team members who are current affairs experts, history buffs or subject specialists that would see them scoop the top prize on Mastermind? Host a series of 'donate-at-the-door' Lunch and Learns led by your clever colleagues. Want to take this idea further? Invite outside speakers in.

7. GAME NIGHT GALA

Host a game night where employees can participate in board games, video games, or trivia. Colleagues can contribute to play and win prizes.



8. MERRY QUIZMAS

Hold a festive and fun fundraising quiz night. Virtual or in person, up the stakes with score-boosting 'joker cards' that teams can purchase for an extra donation.



9. WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE...

A chance to get to know your colleagues inner-child, hold a fancy dress day where staff come in dressed as what they wanted to be when you were younger.

10. DUVET DAY RAFFLE

Always a big earner, sell raffle tickets for a chance to win an extra day's holiday.

11. GOLF DAY

Get a group of colleagues, customers and friends to join you for a round of golf. Include lunch and charge a ticket price with profits donated to Future First. Don't forget to see if you can score some prizes from local businesses for a raffle or auction on the day.



12. SWEEPSTAKE

Whether it's Olympic fever, Eurovision mania or Strictly frenzy, hold a sweepstake with half the prize pot donated to Future First.

13. GIFT WRAPPING STATION

Set up a festive gift wrapping station in your staff room or canteen and set up a volunteer rota to run it. For a small charge, colleagues can tick present wrapping off their festive task list.

14. MEGA TEAM CHALLENGE

Get a team of colleagues together to take on an epic challenge. Whether it's a 24 hour dance marathon or swimming the distance of the channel, these epic challenges are great for promoting teamwork.



15. CHARITY BOOK SALE

Donate your old books and hold an office book sale. As well as being a simple fundraiser, it's a great way to get people talking about their favourite reads and getting to know each other.

SOME OF OUR CURRENT EMPLOYER PARTNERS



Ashurst



EVERSHEDS
SUTHERLAND

TaylorWessing

Wafra

voi.



LUM●N

YOU CAN'T BE WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE

We want to build a society and economy that harnesses talent from all social backgrounds: supporting social and economic progress, unlocking potential, helping local communities to thrive, and creating pathways to success.

For more information, get in touch:



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