**Our programme**

S4SNextGen is a free programme launched in 2017 by our charity to help state school students who lack networks access invaluable placements at the UK’s sector-leading organisations.

Our portal was created specifically to help leading firms better reach students (14-18 yrs) who need work experience and would not normally consider careers in their industries. We focus on:

**Increasing opportunities and access:**
Only 30% of employers offer work experience (UKCES) and many placements are solely possible due to parental connections (Ofsted, 2016).

**Levelling the playing field for students from disadvantaged backgrounds:**
Students from affluent backgrounds are nearly 1.5 times more likely to receive quality careers guidance (ASPIRES 2, 2016).

**Giving them the experience they need:**
66% of employers cite work experience as 'critical' when hiring; 32% of top firms' entry roles go to those with existing industry experience (High Fliers 2015).

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"I come from a state school and opportunities like these would not normally reach me...it has helped me make a concrete decision about my career."

Nashada, hosted by WikiTribune

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**What S4SNextGen Offers**

S4SNextGen is entirely free for our linked employers as a part of our charity’s work helping improve access for state schools and better support young people.

- **Online portal alongside other leading organisations** to advertise to state schools nationally.

- **Application process & tools** helping target new students to improve diversity, access and future talent prospects.

- **Guidance and tips** from leading companies to help our employers find a model that works for them.

- **Tailoring to your needs** with a consultation to find a meaningful programme that suits your organisation size & type.
How We Can Work With You

In our launch year we helped create and fill over 125 student placements at employers like M&C Saatchi, Virgin Money, Bank of England, WikiTribune and Natural History Museum. We’ve been working with organisations in different ways depending on their size, type and level of experience. See how we can help you below:

**STARTING OUT**

**Who:** New to hosting work placements, we can provide tailored advice.
- How - To guides for managers
- Models and skeleton programmes that make hosting easier for small teams
- Best - practice insights for meaningful placements
- Help going through basic legal & HR requirements

**IMPROVING IMPACT**

**Who:** Experienced hosts wanting to better reach students with higher need, diverse backgrounds and/or in new places.
- Applications that show need as well as enthusiasm
- Guidance on identifying high-need students
- Employer best-practice group
- Activity ideas to help build transferable skills

**CENTRALISING & ORGANISING PROCESSES**

**Who:** Have some hosting experience but want to streamline what is on offer to students.
- Central and easy to track online applications system
- Flexible placements to suit your organisation
- Example models & case studies
- Ideas on integrating Grad & Apprentice programmes

**ESTABLISHED PORTALS & PROGRAMMES**

**Who:** Existing large programmes looking to widen reach and strategically raise awareness.
- UK-wide network of 1,800 state schools
- Cross-promotion with other top employers
- Adverts can link directly to your site
- Targeting students without access

“They embraced the experience with total commitment and dedication from the beginning and could easily have been mistaken for a Reed Smith employee given how well they worked within their teams.**

Carole Mehigan, Host, Reed Smith LLP

*To find out more about how our charity can help amplify your work with state school students, get in touch to arrange a consultation.*

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