

# IntoTech Evaluation

**Futures For All (FFA) are undertaking a randomised controlled trial (RCT) of the IntoTech programme. The exact parameters of the RCT are still being decided but the following text describes how it is currently envisaged.**

The trial will target Year 8 students who will take part in a three-year programme of FFA tech enrichment activities from Year 8-10, starting in 2025/26. The RCT will assess the impact of the IntoTech programme on, for example, students' knowledge, attitudes and behaviours in relation to careers in the tech industry. The RCT will involve schools being randomly allocated to an intervention or control group. Intervention schools will start the programme in 2025/26 with control schools starting a year later (2026/27).

Schools will be eligible if their current Year 7 students have not been offered access to a FFA tech career talk. Schools meeting that criteria can sign up to the IntoTech programme trial and will be asked to supply data for students who will be in Year 8 in 2025-26, who will then complete an initial survey (called a baseline). Following this, schools will be randomly allocated to either an intervention group or control group.

## Intervention group schools

Intervention group schools will start the IntoTech programme in 2025-26. Their Year 8 cohort in this year will participate in FFA IntoTech activities during Year 8 and then continue on the programme until they are in Year 10. Girls and disadvantaged students will be particularly encouraged to participate and, if there are limited places, will be preferentially allocated to them. It is worth noting that, alongside their participation in the IntoTech programme, students involved in the trial will also be able to participate in other FFA activities about other sectors.

During the course of the programme, intervention schools will be asked to provide data on pupil participation in the IntoTech programme. They also be asked to take part in evaluation activities such as staff surveys and/or interviews to gather feedback on implementation and perceived impact and a staff survey to ask about the range of enrichment activities that students have participated in during the trial. When the programme ends, when intervention students are in Y10, students will be asked to complete an endpoint outcomes survey.

## Control group schools

Control group schools will not access the IntoTech programme in 2025/26 but will follow usual practice. This means that they can access their usual FFA activities on all other sectors apart from tech. Their Year 8 students will then start the three-year IntoTech programme the following year (2026-27).

A staff member in the school will be asked to complete a survey about the enrichment activities they have participated in during the trial. In addition, the Year 8 students who were selected for the trial in 2025/26 but then did not experience IntoTech activities will be asked to complete the outcomes survey at the end of Year 10. This is so that their outcomes can be compared to intervention students.

All data collection and processing for the trial will adhere to the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

Further details will follow once schools are recruited to the programme.