

# XMaS Scientist Experience



# XMaS Scientist Experience

- What is the XMaS Scientist Experience?
- Where we are so far
- The impact and outcomes

# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

A UK national competition for year 12 female Physics students to win a 4 day trip to the ESRF and XMaS

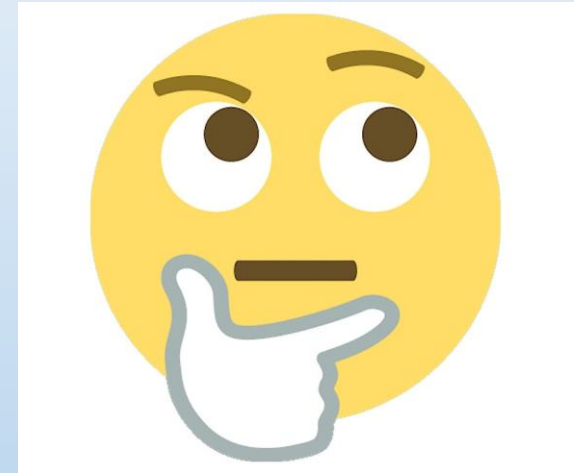


# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

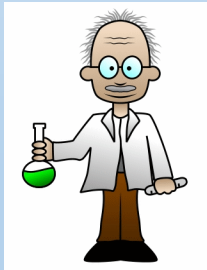
## Why?

Well known that women are under-represented in Physics.

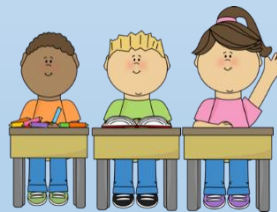
What careers can a qualification in Physics lead to?



Scientist?



Teacher?



# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

## The competition



*from studying the past achievements of incredibly brave and intelligent pioneer women in science like Dorothy Hodgkin to researching the current statistics on women in STEM subjects, it made me proud to be a women studying physics. – Sophie*



XMaS is the Xray  
beam for UK  
scientists located  
inside the ESRF.

ESRF Synchrotron



# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

## The student showcase



# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

The trips so far;



April 2015



# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

The trips so far;

September 2015  
University of Uppsala

2015

# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

The trips so far:

July 2016



# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

The trips so far;





# What is XMaS Scientist Experience?

## Opportunities to spread the word;



**XMaS Science Gala-** Public Engagement event involving the science faculty at the University of Warwick January each year – See the poster presentation!



ESRF Newsletters  
Materials Today article  
School Newsletters  
WISE Campaign Blog  
Girl Museum Blog  
Sciencegrrl Blog  
Local newspaper in Grenoble

**Launching the project  
to the Next Year 12  
group in their school.**



@XMaSSchoolTrip





# Results from 1<sup>st</sup> trip in 2015

According to questionnaire results the students thought that the project helped in the following areas 'to a very large extent' (which is the top rank they can give);

- Gave me insights into possible careers which draw on STEM
- Introduced me to inspirational mentors, supervisors role models
- Made me more likely to choose to study STEM related subjects in the future
- Gave me experience in STEM I would not otherwise have come across
- Gave me insight into what it is like to work in a research environment or in an industrial/commercial setting.
- Gave me insights into aspects of STEM I was not aware of



# Results from 1<sup>st</sup> trip in 2015

According to questionnaire results the students thought that the project helped in the following areas 'to a very large extent' (which is the top rank they can give);

- Helped me better understand how STEM is done or applied in the real world
- Brought me together with like-minded people my age.
- Gave me insights into the links between different STEM areas
- Made me more motivated to do well or more determined to succeed
- Gave me a better appreciation of the contribution of STEM to society
- Helped me better understand how the things I learn in lessons can be applied in the real world



# Where are they now?

University of Manchester- Physics with Astrophysics

University of Edinburgh-  
Infectious Diseases

University of Central  
Lancashire- Computing

University of Durham- Geology

Coventry University- Economics

Architectural Engineering

University of Exeter- Physics  
with a year in New Zealand

University of Liverpool- Maths

University of Exeter- Physics  
and Astrophysics



2 resitting A Levels, 1  
travelling on a gap year and  
1 working full time and only  
1 we don't know!



# What they say two years on?

*The XMaS trip was incredible. It was amazing to be able to visit two cutting edge facilities, the ILL and the ESRF, and see what a wide range of scientific disciplines use this technology. It was also great to be able to talk to the scientists, who were all really passionate about the research they were doing, and the real world impacts it would have. The trip showed me that we shouldn't set constraints for ourselves, everyone should pursue what they are interested in.- Francesca*

*I am more likely to become a scientist because of this trip.- Anastasia*

*It was really helpful for me to see what a life is like as an international scientist and talking to various scientists has helped me to confirm the path that I want to take and showed me the career options that I have.- Chloe*

*I want to study physics at uni but this trip has not only consolidated that in my mind but made me realise that if I wanted to study further in Physics I could. I guess I had the impression that you had to be extremely intelligent (borderline genius) to do a PhD in physics and doubted whether I was smart enough, but speaking to the scientists here has helped me to see that hard work, determination and passion for physics are equally important and as long as I was willing to put the work in it was something that I could do. - Sophie*





# Other Outcomes



*“big big thank you to Ally and Kayleigh for giving Emily the opportunity and experience if a lifetime to Grenoble. I hope, well I know all the girls will succeed in whatever profession they do in their future they are all very clever young scientists to be...”*



# Any questions?

Kayleigh Lampard-

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## Poster Session- XMaS Science Gala

