
Information sheet for Evaluation of Generation UK's Skills Bootcamps

Information for agencies referring applicants to Generation UK

What is the research and why is it taking place?

The National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) is undertaking research to explore the effectiveness and outcomes of skills bootcamps delivered by Generation UK. Generation UK delivers skills bootcamps in three sectors: technology, healthcare and green.

The research involves two key phases:

- Phase 1: an exploratory phase in which we will gain an in-depth understanding of the recruitment, selection, delivery and outcomes of previous skills bootcamps delivered by Generation UK
- Phase 2: a randomised controlled trial in which the outcomes of the skills bootcamps will be explored by comparing the experiences of an intervention group of young people aged 18-24 (or 18-25 if they have special educational needs) who take part in skills bootcamps to a control group who do not. The trial will involve young people applying for and being accepted onto the skills boot camps after which they will be randomised into the intervention and control groups, with half of those selected receiving the intervention and half not. Phase 2 will only take place if data collected during Phase 1 suggests that a trial will be feasible.

This information sheet relates to Phase 1.

As part of Phase 1, NFER is wanting to interview representatives from organisations which refer young people aged 18-24 or 18-25 if they have special educational needs onto Generation UK's skills bootcamps. Phase 1 is taking place between March and July 2026. Should it go ahead, we will also want to consult with you as part of Phase 2 and you will receive a separate information sheet at the time which will detail the research aims and activities.

We would very much appreciate your participation in the research.

What activities will the Phase 1 research involve for my organisation?

The research will involve taking part in an online individual interview of around 30-45 minutes. The interview will explore:

- the work of your organisation in supporting young people's progression into the labour market

- your relationship with Generation UK
- your processes for referring young people onto Generation UK's skills bootcamps
- criteria you use when determining whether and who to refer to Generation UK
- other job search, training, placements and employment support that you provide or refer these young people onto
- your perceptions of the outcomes of Generation UK's skills bootcamps and of other similar support and provision that is available to young people
- your views on the impacts a future trial of Generation UK's skills bootcamps could have on your referral processes.

Data protection

NFER is the data controller for the research. Participation in all research activities is entirely voluntary. Research participants will be fully briefed on the purposes of the study and how the information they provide will be used before consenting to take part. We operate fully in-line with data protection legislation (including GDPR) and we will not use the information we receive for anything other than this research. If participants consent to be contacted again for follow up research, contact details will be retained and will only be used for this purpose.

At the end of the research, NFER will produce a publishable report. Data collected during the study will be anonymised and no individual or organisation will be identifiable from the report, unless permission has explicitly been given by the data subject.

Who is NFER?

NFER is an independent research organisation with many years' experience of undertaking research and evaluation with schools, colleges, businesses and the public sector. For more information please visit: <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/>

Where can I go for more information?

More details about the research including a link to this information sheet and an associated privacy notice can be found [here](#).

In addition, Suzanne Straw, Research Director, is very happy to answer any questions. Please contact Suzanne on s.straw@nfer.ac.uk

Thank you very much for your support with this research.