


SOLUTIONS FOR THE PLANET

**Impact Report
2019-2020**

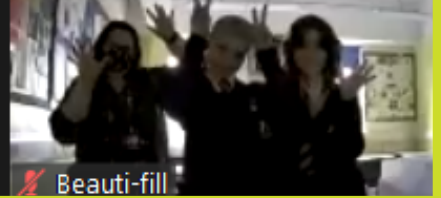
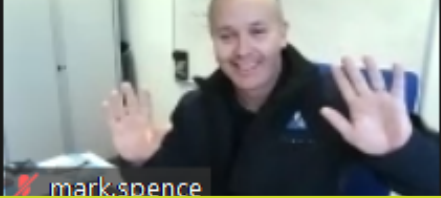
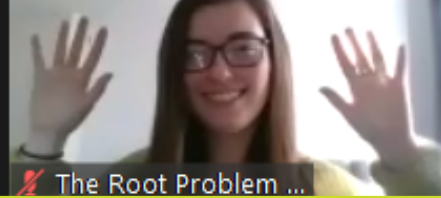
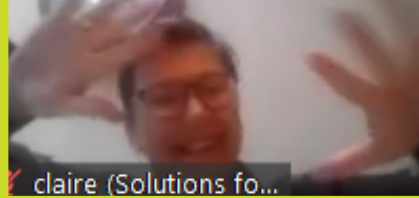
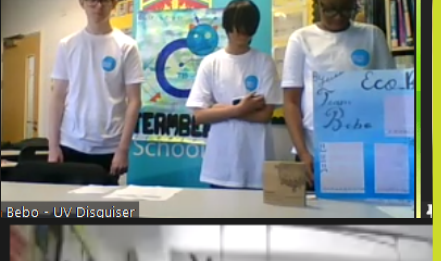
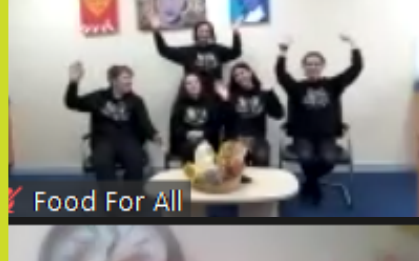
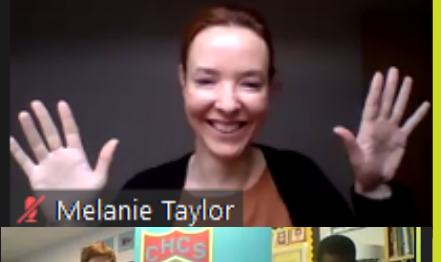
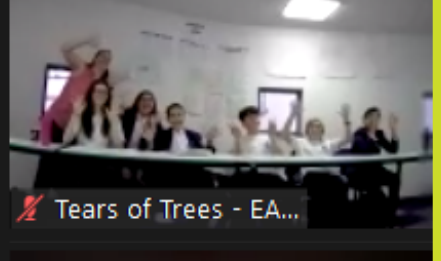
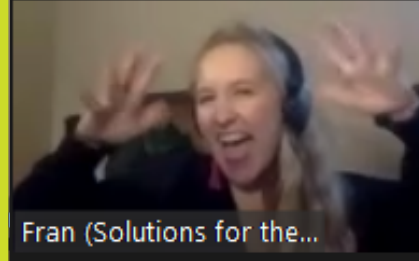
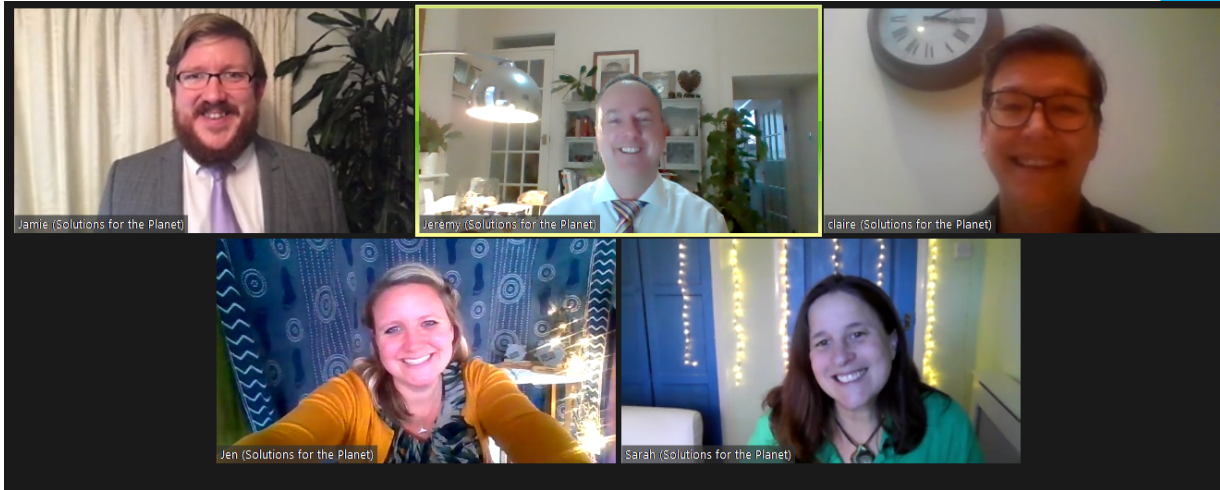


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CEO's Welcome

It is with immense pleasure and pride that I welcome you to Solutions for the Planet's Impact Report 2019-2020. There were points during the year that could have resulted in this being our last impact report, but thanks to the support of our incredible school and business partners, we pivoted our Big Ideas Programme, developed new products and services, and delivered more extraordinarily positive outcomes than we could possibly have imagined.

Going into schools seems long ago now, though we did last year and delivered our Big Ideas Days with 132 businesses employee volunteers to 3,886 amazing 11 to 14 year olds. The students, teachers and mentors who continued to work with us through school closures and lockdowns, in the midst of a global pandemic, are perfect examples of why it's important to build resilience and nurture creativity. They allow us to adapt, find new ways of working, and to get through the darkest of times, as does working together and supporting each other.

Our programmes and services all focus on young people and sustainability, and are all aimed at building relationships between businesses and schools. The power of those relationships and the passion shown by the young people we worked with this year has been nothing short of magical. This Impact Report shares highlights of our journey together and illustrates some of the measurable impacts. However, it has become clear to us, last year more than ever, that being part of the Big Ideas Programme has been a ray of hope and positive action for everyone involved, and the impact of that is immeasurable.

Thank you to everyone involved for your belief, your determination, your passion, your energy, your work, your support, your ideas and for being a daily inspiration.

You are all #HopeinAction

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Jen Baylton".

Our Values

"Solutions for the Planet's core values reflect our deeply held belief that we can support positive change through our programmes, whilst remaining true to ourselves, and these are promoted through all of the programmes we offer."

Mark Wood, Non-Executive Director – Chair, Solutions for the Planet

Responsibility and Sustainability

Living without harming others, achieving financial sustainability and considering how we manage resources, working towards zero impact.

Transparency and Integrity

Communicating honestly, openly and clearly. We act as a reliable and trustworthy partner.

Creativity and Innovation

A drive to challenge the status quo and give everyone the freedom to be creative and innovative, thereby allowing brave, different and imaginative ways of doing things to flourish.

Partnership and Collaboration

We can all remember a time when we've had to ask for help, given help or received it from others. Such moments show why healthy partnership and collaboration are so important: we have to work together.

Our Approach

We run programmes and services that focus on young people and sustainability, and all aimed at building relationships between businesses and schools.

Participation in Solutions for the Planet programmes develops key employability skills, nurtures creativity, develops awareness of sustainability issues and motivates society to take responsibility for people and planet.

Through experiential learning, supported by volunteers from a range of industry sectors, young people are able to develop practical skills to prepare them for life beyond formal education as well as a sense of responsibility for the people and planet around them.

Big Ideas Programme

Our flagship programme, the award-winning Big Ideas Programme, has already involved over 23,000 young people from more than 50 schools, and over 500 mentors from our Business Partners. It lasts a whole school year, starting with a Big Ideas Day and culminating in a competition with the National Final usually being held at the Palace of Westminster.

S4TP Youth Insights

This freshly-launched service offers businesses the opportunity to work with panels of young people from around the UK, giving those young people a voice within the business organisation, and helping shape its future direction and strategy.

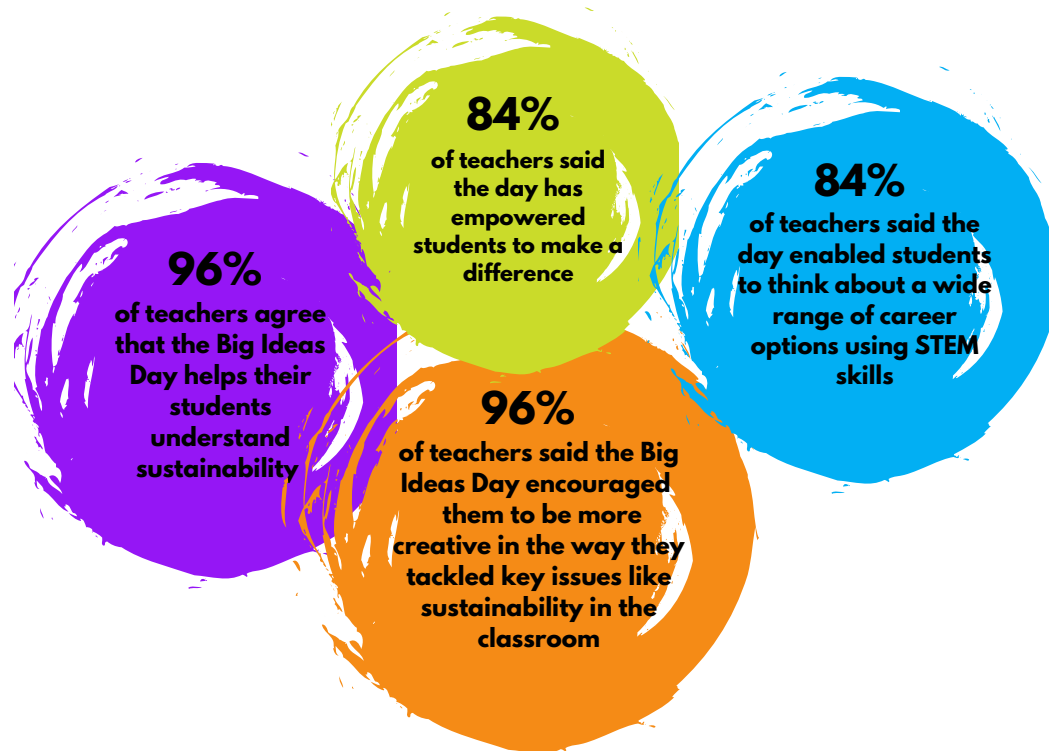
Our work supports the Government-adopted Gatsby Benchmarks of Good Career Guidance

Schools and Teachers

31 lead teachers supported 1000 Big Ideas from 31 schools

"The Big Ideas Programme is a unique and exciting opportunity that allows students to think about their place in the world and the positive changes they have the skills and ideas to help bring about."

Mrs Creswick, Teacher, Nailsea School, Big Ideas Programme 2020



"The Big Ideas Programme is simply fantastic! The manner in which my students have improved their communication skills, they have expanded their friendship groups, they have become business entrepreneurs, they are so much more confident, not only in communicating, but in their planning skills, in expressing themselves and their ideas... the list is endless. Thank you S4TP!"

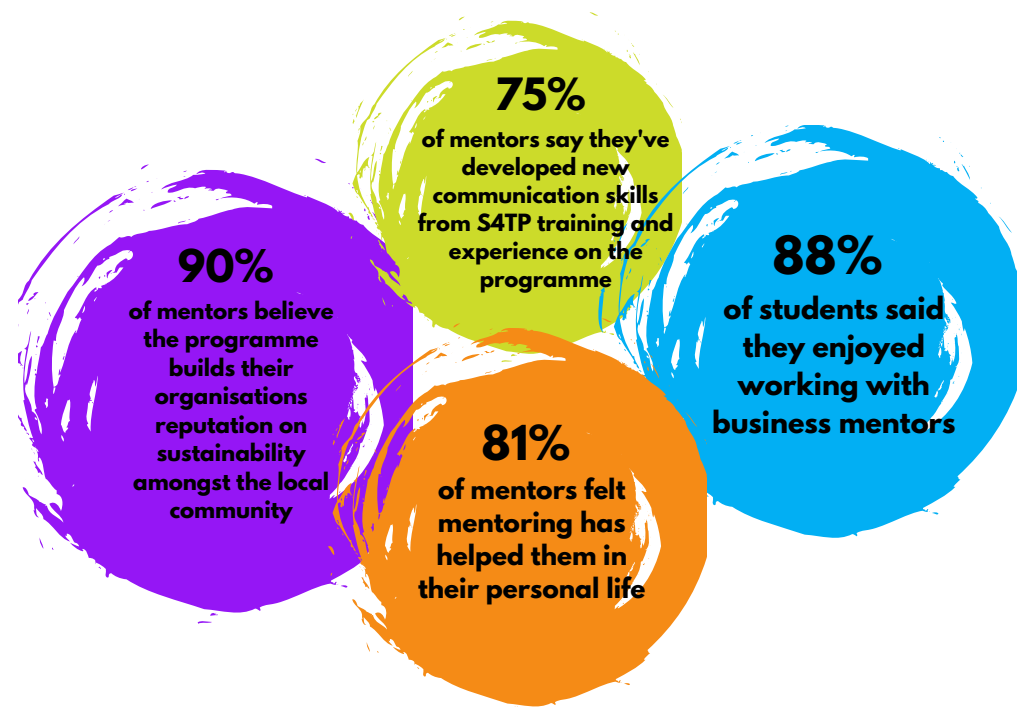
Mr Jackson, Teacher, Mayfield School, Big Ideas Programme 2020

Businesses and Mentors

132 business employees volunteered over 3000 hours to mentor our Big Ideas teams.

"The Big Ideas Programme has blown my mind. Seeing how enthusiastic and creative the students were in coming up with green solutions was amazing to see. I have full confidence that the next generation can solve the challenge of how we achieve net zero."

Big Ideas Programme Mentor 2020, Northern Gas Networks



"Being involved in the Big Ideas Programme has shown me how the application of creativity and innovation that young people have towards issues they are truly passionate about can be limitless. The enthusiasm for change is inspiring, it continually challenges me to work towards a more sustainable, eco-friendly way of natural resource use in life."

Big Ideas Programme Mentor 2020, Tarmac

All change (the Pivot)...

In March 2020 (around the time the Solutions for the Planet team is normally gearing up to look at all the submissions to the Big Ideas Competition), Covid-19 had arrived and turned the world on its head. The schools we work with, our Business Partners and our own business itself were facing many unknowns, and some searching conversations took place between our CEO Jen and the Solutions for the Planet Board about whether the Big Ideas Programme could continue in 2020.

We swiftly developed a number of options to offer schools so they could remain on the programme. We already had 153 Big Ideas submitted by the March deadline, so once we knew that most of our schools were keen to continue we went to work taking the 2020 Big Ideas Competition online! Submissions were shortlisted virtually using Microsoft Teams, over the course of a week and involved enlisting more than 25 different judges from our Business Partners, Community Partners, company directors and young entrepreneurs.

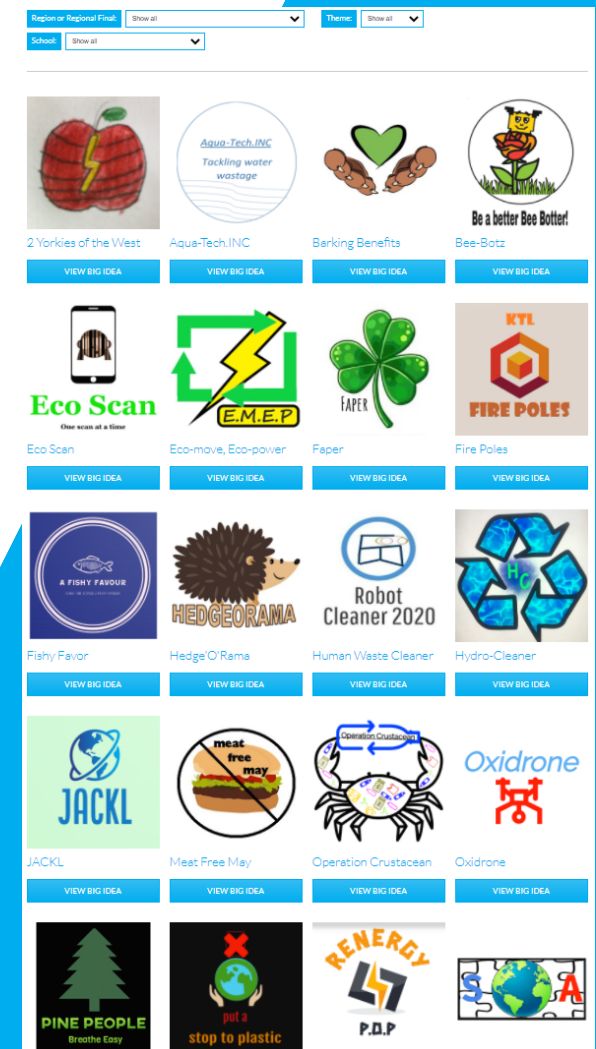
Meanwhile, we developed addendums to our safeguarding policies for online working and invested time and money in our website to develop an online platform that we would use to communicate with our students, and where they could communicate with each other, their mentors, their teachers, and the S4TP team. We developed a series of creative challenges that students could complete at home and the capacity for them to upload their work to our web platform. We put a lot of time into developing options for each of the challenges, that would appeal to different learning styles. We then sent out parental permission forms, knowing that every student taking part would need both permission and support from their parents/carers as the Competition progressed. We had 175 responses from parents supporting their children's participation in the programme. And we connected 132 mentors from our Business Partners with teams through our monitored, virtual platform.

The Big Ideas Programme would continue!

21 schools continued with the Virtual Competition.
175 students from 56 teams with different Big Ideas,
resulting in a Big Ideas Competition that will live long
in the memory for everyone who was involved in it.

95%
of students said they
understood more
about the
environment and
sustainability.

86%
of students say they
have now tried to
get more people to
act responsibly for
the planet



Regional Finals

We mixed things up this year and selected the teams in each Regional Final by a Live Draw on our YouTube channel. **39 teams** competed in one of **7 Virtual Regional Finals**, with **645 pieces of work** being submitted in their student portfolios!

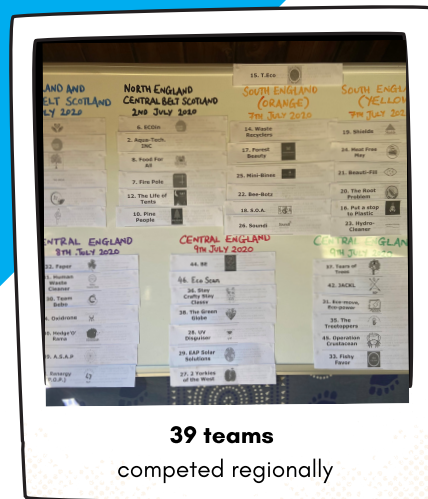
Our Big Ideas teams ploughed on. Despite mostly working from home, and despite the uncertainties we were all facing, they prepared video pitches for our 24 Regional Final Judges. The judges scored the portfolios before the events according to our criteria then each team had a 20-minute slot to answer the judges' questions.



153 teams
entered the competition



12 Finalist Teams



39 teams
competed regionally

Students are eligible for a CREST Discovery Award for participating in the Big Ideas Day. Regional Finalists receive a CREST Bronze Award, and National Finalists can apply for a CREST Silver Award.

We're proud to partner with the British Science Association and the CREST Awards to recognise students' time and commitment to developing their Big Ideas using science, technology, engineering & maths skills.

National Final

Our National Final traditionally takes place at the Palace of Westminster in London at the end of the summer term. In 2020, due to the ongoing pandemic, we postponed the event until the autumn term and eventually decided that we would run it virtually on 18th November 2020. We were delighted to bring together over 120 people from businesses, schools, and our teams - we even managed to bring a taste of Westminster to the occasion, with eight MPs joining us to support the teams from their constituencies.

"I was extremely grateful to be invited along to the Big Ideas 2020 event, and cheer on my home team from Bannockburn High School. The Food for All team were articulate, clear and their passion to tackle food poverty shone through. I'm very proud they've won first place in this UK-wide competition, and championed the values of their school and city. Hats off too to the team at Solutions for the Planet, who have pulled off an amazing feat in the most difficult of circumstances."

Alyn Smith MP, Stirling

This year we had **12 amazing Big Ideas National Finalist teams**. You can read about each of these ideas on the next two pages.

"The SATP final was a fantastically well-organised event which offered engaging content throughout the day. Not only the amazing quality of students' Big Ideas presentations, we had an influential talk from guest speaker Mya-Rose Craig, plus a really fascinating and insightful Q&A between students and business experts. Congrats SATP on an amazing day!"
Simon Chaffer, 3iG Investment & Operations Lead, Northern Gas Networks



With special thanks to
The Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP
and the eight other MPs
that attended our
National Final

Our Winners and their Big Ideas



Food For All from **Bannockburn High School**, Stirling came first with their visionary idea to create a service to redistribute food about to go to waste in a cafe and educate people about healthy eating. This team want to tackle food waste and affordability.

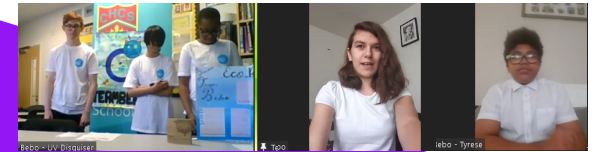
The judges were so impressed with the amount of effort and originality the students showed, the connections they'd made and conversations they had already started having. These were with organisations like Tesco, the local council and charities such as Stirling Citizen Advice Bureau.

"A happier, healthy change for our community. Our vision is that more people have the money and confidence to support themselves and their family, that they have the chance for a better life".



Second place went to **Beauti-Fill** from **Priory School**, Portsmouth. This team want to reduce waste in landfills by creating a mobile refill station for health, hygiene and beauty products. Beauti-Fill's main aim is to reduce plastic pollution by using reusable packaging and products. These products are all free of chemicals and are natural.

The judges were amazed by Beauti-Fill's concept and said: "We were blown away by the detail in Beauti-Fill's Big Idea- using Braille and a spheric ball; donating profits to charity; creating employment to embed social elements of sustainability across their business; as well as environmental sustainability considerations like solar-powered vehicles and environmentally-friendly packaging. It's great to see an inclusive beauty brand encouraging positive mental health."



Third place was awarded to both **Team Bebo** and **UV Disguiser** from **Colton Hills Community School**, Wolverhampton. Both teams are passionate about the importance of ocean life and plastic waste in oceans. Team Bebo want to spread public awareness using a campaign to ensure future generations see the beauty of the oceans and a robot to remove plastic pollution. UV Disguisers' Big Idea is two solar-powered products that will detect and collect plastic in the oceans to benefit marine life, our eco system and the environment.

The judges were very impressed with both teams, saying of UV Disguiser - "We loved their creativity- particularly around how they used their branding consistently. They have been very ambitious - going after a big problem requires a bold solution!"

The National Finalists and their Big Ideas

A.S.A.P. – An app tracking non-recyclable plastic use, with rewards funded by a plastic tax.

Aero-Secure – A campaign to fund and build prototypes for a tree-planting drone that runs on green energy.

Beauti-Fill – A mobile refill station for health, hygiene and beauty products.

EAP Solar Solutions – A solar-powered, ocean-born alkali dispenser to reduce coral reef damage.

Eco-Air – A car that is powered by air.

Food For All – A service to redistribute food in a cafe and educate people about healthy eating.

Mini-Bines – Mini-turbines created in class and used by schools for energy.

Spike Stoppers – A selection of straws and cups that change colour when a drink has been spiked.

Team Bebo – A robot that collects plastic from oceans and an ocean pollution awareness campaign.

Tears of Trees – A campaign and app to reduce palm oil usage by people and companies.

The Root Problem – Cutlery made from crushed fruit and vegetable seeds that can be planted & grown.

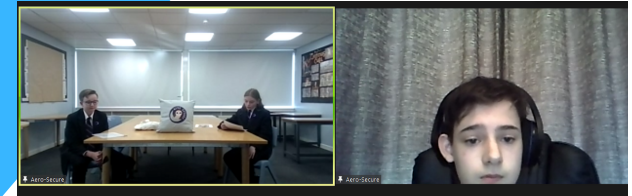
UV Disguiser – Two watercraft; one to detect plastic pollution in the oceans and one to collect it.

The lengths our National Finalist teams have gone to in the face of the challenges of COVID-19 is quite simply incredible. All of them produced adverts and meet the teams videos; four have started raising money to fund their Big Idea; one team performed a live demonstration of the science behind their idea; all of the teams have started building their networks; and all of those with products have started to develop prototypes. This really shows how resilient these young people are, and how far their skills have developed over the course of the programme.

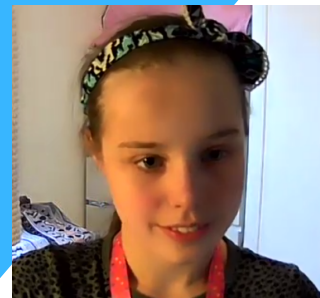
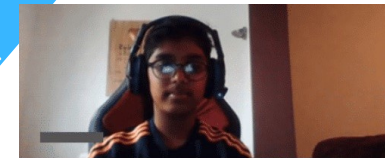
We wish all the teams success in continuing to develop and implement their ideas. From the discussions with our panel of experts and business partners, we know there are already plans to grow support networks and strategies for putting ideas into action.



Tears of Trees
Alderbrook School



Aero-Secure
Outwood Academy Freeston



Eco-Air
Royds School



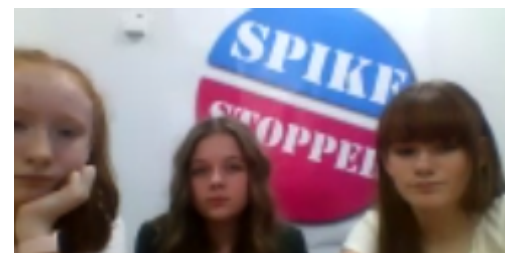
EAP Solar Solutions
Alderbrook School



The Root Problem
Oaks Park High School



A.S.A.P.
Perton Middle School



Spike Stoppers
Kingsmeadow Community School



Mini-Bines
Cams Hills School

Our Business Partner Network and Supporters

Our Business Partners tell us they get involved in the programme because of the opportunities to:

- Develop employees, upskill the talent pipeline and raise the profile of career opportunities in their industries (human resources)
- Network with other businesses, school communities, local organisations and politicians, as well as increase their positive news stories (communications)
- Engage directly in communities that they service, encourage more young people into STEM and provide employee volunteering opportunities whilst stimulating sustainable solutions (social value)

Our Business Partner Network and supporters are crucial to the success of the Big Ideas Programme.

“As an experienced Chief Executive from the Cleantech sector I agreed to judge as a way to give something back and encourage students to make a difference. It turns out, it was me that was inspired by the children and their creative ideas have driven me to further my understanding of drivers of climate change, such as the stratification of carbon in the atmosphere. It was a thoroughly rewarding experience and I will drive more change as a result.”

Gareth Jones, Director, Eucalyptus Consulting Ltd

“I believe that our attempts to help young people and local schools in developing their business skills through S4TP benefit us as much as the young people involved.”

Andrew Quail, Director of IT and Innovation, SGN

“Working with S4TP is a great opportunity for mutual learning, creating fresh ideas and providing young people with business experience whilst giving them an insight into the breadth of career opportunities in our industry.”

Dr Martyn Kenny, Sustainability Director, Tarmac

To join the journey contact Solutions for the Planet at
solutionsfortheplanet.co.uk



"An Evening with Big Ideas"

Did we mention that 2020 was an unusual year?

Aside from our boundless hopefulness and optimism, we really had no idea, when we embarked on setting up the Virtual Big Ideas Competition, how our schools and students would take to it. The first piece of video work that came in was from '2 Yorkies of the West', a team of two boys isolating in their separate homes who'd edited themselves together in a video despite their separation through lockdown. We realised then that this virtual competition was going to be something special, showing us the resilience and creativity of our students (and teachers!) even more than usual. By the time we reached the Regional Finals, 645 pieces of work had been submitted and the standard of that work had consistently blown us away. Many a moment was spent in team meetings saying, "Have you seen the new advert from UV Disguiser?"; or "Did you see 'The Root Problem' have got a meeting with their MP next week?!".

The students had performed miracles with the work they produced (a lot of it during the first lockdown) and we needed to celebrate that. Our National Finalists would continue but there were 27 teams who needed it made clear to them how brilliant they were.



And so 'An Evening with Big Ideas' was born. We put together a live, virtual, Oscars-style ceremony filled with nominations and awards given for work done on the Challenges throughout the Virtual Competition (awards like the "Getting Sociable" Award for best use of social media or the "I Can Be Your Hero" Award for the most creative Sustainability Superhero design). We welcomed back Big Ideas Programme alumni Kimi Omolokun (2009), PowerDown (2019) and RenewABus (2019). We expanded our network to recruit some amazing presenters for the ceremony, like Aardman's Merlin Crossingham (Creative Director of Wallace and Gromit) who presented the Animation Award; Duncan Parker, Wildlife Photographer (Planet Earth 2); a host of professional actors (from shows such as 'His Dark Materials' and 'Holby City') performing our teams' poems; and naturalist broadcaster and explorer Steve Backshall (pictured left), who sent in a message of thanks to our teams for all their hard work.

We were joined on the evening by our amazing business partners (who also guest presented some awards), teachers, parents as well as by our incredible teams. It was truly a night to remember!



Watch "An Evening with Big Ideas"



45 teams, 30 teachers, 25 mentors from our partners and another 20 from the community, 27 judges and 130 spectacular young people came together to make the 2020 Pivot of the Big Ideas Programme the success that it was!

Other Highlights of 2020

Expanded the S4TP team, bringing in new talent and fresh ideas

Our CEO was named on the WISE100 as a Woman of Inspiration 2020



"The Big Ideas programme is a truly inspirational experience that helps develop your social skills, business skills, IT skills and much more. I definitely recommend giving it a go because you don't know what you are capable of until you try!"

Student, Big Ideas Programme 2020

One of our Big Ideas 2019 National Finalist teams, Energy Gym, presented at IGEM's Lion's Lair



Our Big Ideas Programme Pivot was shortlisted in the Great British Entrepreneur of the Year Awards



We added 485 minutes of content to our YouTube channel and in 2020 our videos attracted 4441 new views totaling 18532 minutes viewing time

Successfully Launched S4TP Youth Insights

Presented every day of the Youth Climate Summit 9-13th November

Alongside two students we presented at European NECE Conference

Our Environmental Impact

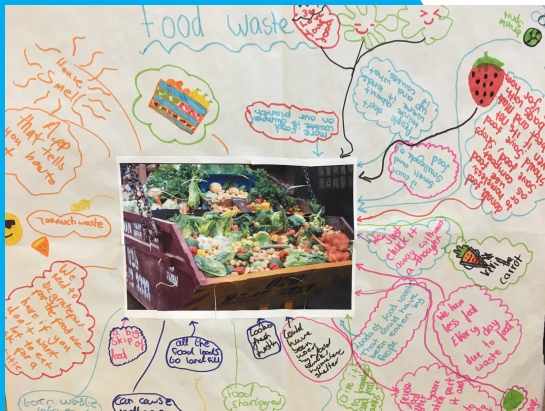


We are committed to:

- Using eco-friendly and sustainable materials and supplies throughout our operations and programmes e.g. recycled paper for printing and Big Ideas Days posters
- Recycling e.g. ensuring any waste materials are recycled after Big Ideas Days
- Reducing our carbon emissions and vehicle emissions
- Keeping food waste to a minimum at events
- Offsetting our carbon
- Using Ecosia, a search engine that donates 80% or more of its profits to nonprofit organizations that focus on reforestation and planting trees where they are needed most.

This year we have worked towards these goals in the following ways:

- Continuing our product partnership with BIC who supply all of our schools with samples of their Ecolutions products
- Searching 10004 times using Ecosia, the Solutions for the Planet team contributed to planting 222 trees
- Replacing paper envelopes with reusable drawstring bags made from ethically and sustainably sourced cotton for Big Ideas Day activities
- Working from home or in other organisations' premises, significantly reducing our environmental impact in terms of travelling to work and using additional lighting, heating or materials
- Using public transport and/or car share whenever possible
- Ensuring that our home offices and events don't waste electricity and paper
- Using printers that are capable of printing double-sided and are configured to use ink-saving settings. This is a minimum standard for future purchases.



Our Commitments for next year (2020-21) are:

- We will continue to develop options for virtual delivery of elements of our Programmes reducing travel where possible
- We will join a Carbon Offsetting scheme
- We will continue to use Ecosia as our search engine and aim to plant at least 222 trees.

#HopeInAction



@S4TP_BigIdeas
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