

January 2020

Dear Parent/Carer of Ashish Gurung

Please see below an email from Coventry University on behalf of Nuffield:

The Nuffield Research Placements Programme aims to encourage more young people to consider STEM and Social Science careers. The programme has been offering students an insight into science, technology, engineering and mathematics for over ten years now, and this year we are able to offer placements in geography and social sciences.

Under this programme students will be given the opportunity to undertake a structured placement within industry or a university; placements will run for consecutive 4 to 6 weeks during the summer (July/August) of 2020. Students can undertake Nuffield Research Placement as part of their work experience programme. As part of their placement students will work on an original research project in their field of interest.

Each year we receive over 700 applications from across the West Midlands and we have limited placements available. We would advise students when selecting their preferred area of interest to choose subjects from different groups.

Subjects	Group	Allocated Places
Biology Biomedical science Biochemistry	A	20
Astronomy/ astrophysics Physics	B	15
Chemistry	C	5
Geography Earth Sciences Environmental	D	6
Social Sciences Statistics/data science Mathematics Computing	E	20
Forensic	F	2
Psychology	G	2
Engineering Engineering/manufacturing	H	25

By choosing subjects in different groups, students are increasing their chances of a placement.

Eligibility criteria to apply for a Nuffield Research Placement:

Be over 16 years old and in Year 12 (or equivalent).
Be in full-time, state-funded education in the UK.
Have at least 5 GCSEs (or equivalent) at Level 6 or above, including maths, a science subject and English (or another humanities subject).
Be studying one or more A-level, Scottish Higher (or equivalent) in science, technology, engineering, economics, geography, geology, psychology, computing, statistics or maths.
Be able to spend at least four consecutive weeks between 29th June - 14th August 2020 working on a research project. (We will work with the schools to start placements earlier as part of work experience)

You must also meet at least one of the following criteria:

Your family has a combined household income of below £30000 a year.
You are entitled to free schools meals either now or at any time in the last six years.
You live or have lived in local authority care.
You will be the first in your immediate family to participate in higher education (not including any older siblings). This means neither of your parents/carers has participated in higher education either in the UK or another country. If your siblings have attended higher education but your parents/carers have not you are still eligible

Application Process: Applicants should complete the online application via the web link:

Students are able to apply via www.nuffieldresearchplacements.org.

For teachers who are supplying a student with a reference you will need to re-register your details.

Selection Process:

Students will be required to complete 3 stages before a conditional offer is made. The Key dates are given below;

Process	Key Dates
Closing Date for applications including teacher reference.	19th March 2020
Stage 1 – Shortlisting of students based on application score (grades, personal statement and teacher reference).	20th – 23rd March 2020
Stage 2 – The link for the work –based skills assessment will be sent to the shortlisted students.	20th – 26th March 2020
Stage 3 – Shortlisted students will be Invited to book a session of assessment center.	27th March 2020
Assessment Center and Induction at Coventry University.	3rd – 21st April 2020
Conditional offer sent to selected students.	22nd May 2020
Coordinators will set up of the Nuffield Research Placement.	3rd – 24th June 2020

As part of the preparation to undertake Nuffield Research Placement students will complete four online modules on Openmoodle.	
Students Undertake the Nuffield placement (Students can start the placement earlier as part of the work experience with schools permission and complete consecutive 4/6 week placement)	29th June – 14th Aug 2020
Nuffield Research Celebration Event	September 2020 – TBC

Bursary and Travel expenses: All students will be offered reimbursement for any travel expenses incurred during their placement.

Students who meet our criteria for a Full Bursary will also receive £100 per week of their placement in addition to travel expenses.

The criteria for a full bursary are detailed on the application form - we ask for your help in identifying the students most in need when filling in your section of the form.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on Nuffield.eec@coventry.ac.uk. We invite you to follow us on Twitter @NRPWestMids, where we will be providing support and more videos to help students with their applications.

Yours sincerely,

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