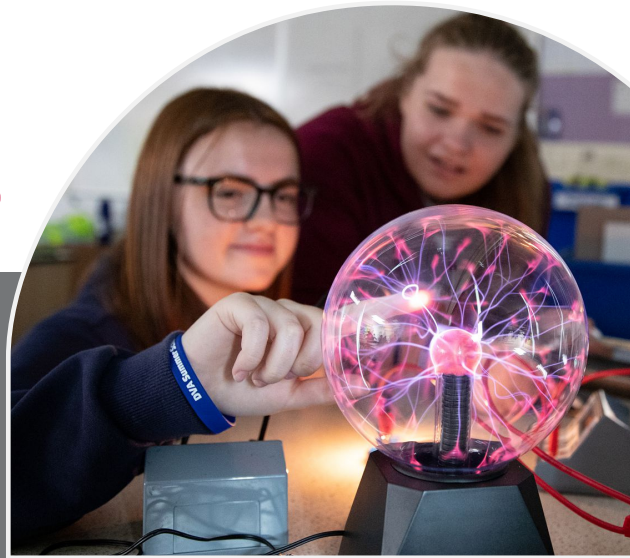


Intensive STEM Summer Camp

DA VINCI ACADEMY DERBY SUMMER 2021



AT A GLANCE

- **Student demographic:** 16 students attended on the day of the evaluation: 11 female and 5 male. The students will be in year 11 the 2021/22 academic year. The school has 36% of students eligible for Free School Meals (May 2021; the national average for secondary schools in England is 19%).
- **Potential to achieve:** There was a mixed academic ability across the group. Students were selected because they had faced significant disruption and are not reaching their potential in science.
- **Specialist teaching:** The camp ran over two weeks with specialist external teachers running curriculum-based lessons in the morning and STEM Ambassadors leading activities in the afternoon.

IMPACT OF COVID-19

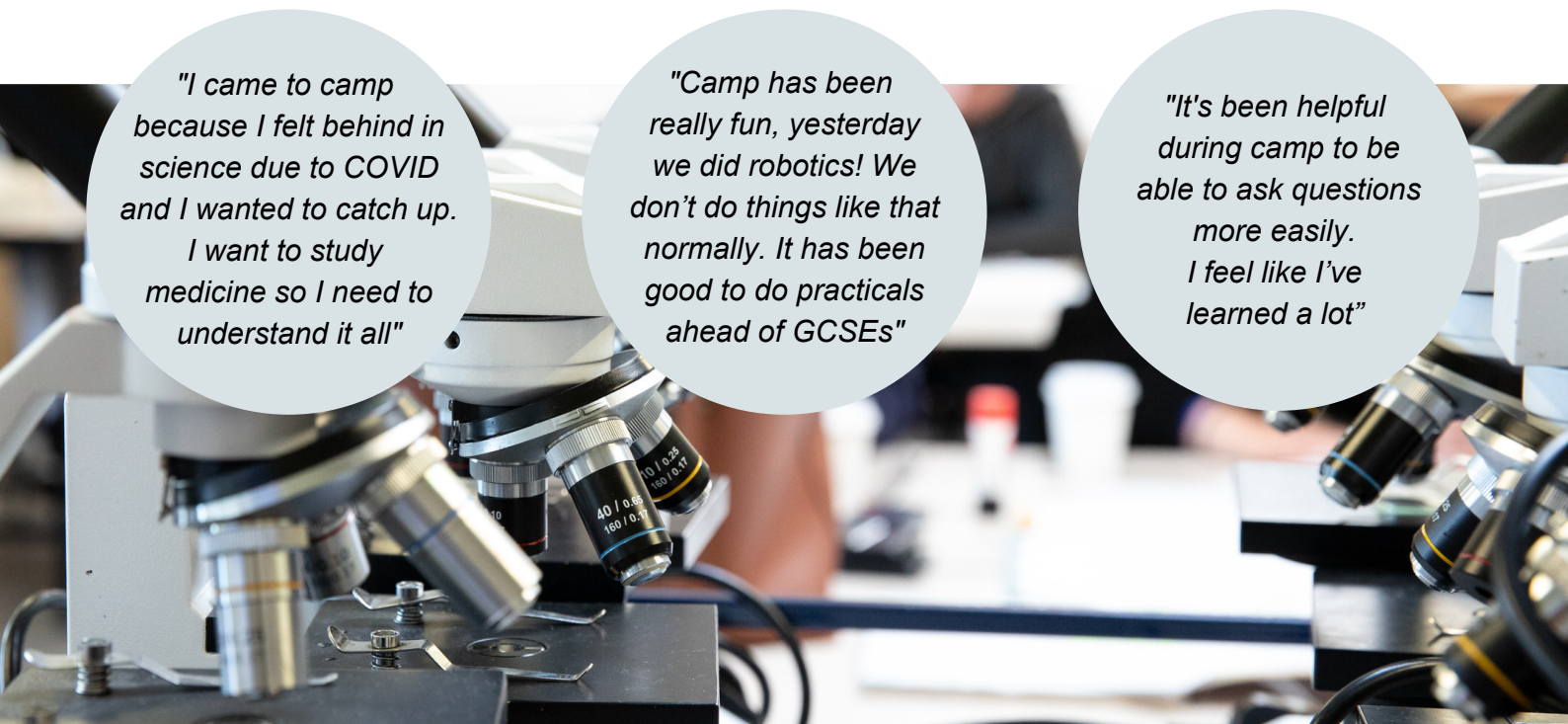
Pupils attending this summer camp were in year 9 when the pandemic closed schools. Now they are returning to the school building at a very different point in their education, about to embark on their GCSE exam year. Teachers have observed students are **lacking in confidence** and are **not academically reaching their potential**. Students have found online learning difficult and the lack of practical work has impacted overall learning.

Quotes from some of the attending year 10 students:

"I came to camp because I felt behind in science due to COVID and I wanted to catch up. I want to study medicine so I need to understand it all"

"Camp has been really fun, yesterday we did robotics! We don't do things like that normally. It has been good to do practicals ahead of GCSEs"

"It's been helpful during camp to be able to ask questions more easily. I feel like I've learned a lot"



"During camp I have found that I work better in this environment, it is more relaxed than normal school so it has helped my revision"

"I've really enjoyed the afternoon sessions. I haven't really been enjoying science but this camp has really helped"

HIGHLIGHTS

Students took part in experiments **linked to the GCSE science curriculum** including testing for electrical resistance, finding the specific heat capacity of chocolate and observing enzymes at work.

The specialist teacher and one class teacher were able to **help students on a 1:1 basis** where required. The STEM Ambassadors led activities which **encouraged students to consider careers in STEM, and linked the science curriculum to real life.**

This **built confidence and increased student knowledge.** It also provided the school with **new activities and resources to support other students** in year 11.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The Deputy Head Teacher of Da Vinci Academy explained the impact on this group of young people:

"Our new year 11 group have had a tough run-up to their exams so the opportunity provided by the Summer Camp to give some of them a chance to catch up and start the new year positively was not to be missed."

"I will be teaching these students next year so it is helpful to get to know them during summer camp and understand their learning needs"
Maths Teacher

"The students have been really receptive and seemed to have enjoyed what we've covered"
Specialist Physics Teacher

