How to Attend a Speakers for Schools VTalk: Guide for Schools

WHAT IS A VTALK?

A VTalk (virtual talk) is a way for students who are studying at home to attend live streamed free talks from our network of today’s leading figures. VTalks are one-way video calls with interactivity through an online Q&A. Much like a face to face event, our VTalks give students the opportunity to engage with our speakers from anywhere in the UK.

WHAT DO STUDENTS NEED TO DO?

Access to the internet via a mobile phone, tablet, laptop or computer.

An Internet Browser (not Internet Explorer) to attend the talk via Microsoft Teams.

The link from Speakers for Schools to join the VTalk at the allotted time.

Questions for the speaker for the Q&A!

HOW DO I GET STUDENTS TO SIGN UP?

- Speakers for Schools will email our schools network a week ahead with our timetable of talks for students to attend. We will recommend which year group or key stage each talk is for and a brief description. SFS will provide a link so that students can join the live event at the specified time.
- Using whichever method to assign work/promote opportunities to students, distribute the link for students along with our brief guide on how to login etc.
- Along with the attendee link, ask students to research the speaker and think of questions for the Q&A part of the talk. SFS will provide a short bio of the speaker for each talk.
- SFS will also provide activity sheets for students so that you can track and manage who has attended the talk.
- We would recommend that students set up for the talk 5 minutes before the start time.

HOW CAN VTALKS HELP WITH MEETING GATSBY BENCHMARKS AND MOTIVATE STUDENTS?

- Attending a VTalk can help meet Gatsby Benchmark number 5: every student should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace.
- There are many ways that attending our talks can help with student motivation; seeing how a speaker overcame challenges to get to where they are today, hearing how a speaker uses their skills in their career, exploring an in depth subject with an expert, hearing the speaker’s top tips for success, listening to expert advice on what makes a good application for university or an apprenticeship and many more!

THEMES AND FORMAT

- All SFS VTalks are between 30 mins and an hour, with plenty of student engagement through the Q&A function.
- Speakers with either – talk and then take Q&A from students or be interviewed by a member of the SFS team and then open up to further Q&A from the students.
- The themes for all SFS VTalks can depend on the speaker but the basic description of the talk can be available with our timetable of talks for schools and students.
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1 **STEP 1**
At the time of the talk click the link that your teacher has sent over. You should arrive at a page that looks like this:

Select the option to watch on the web instead.

2 **STEP 2**
Select the option to join anonymously.

3 **STEP 3**
You are now in the VTalk. It will start at the time given and you can watch the talk as it happens, live!

4 **STEP 4**
Don't forget to ask questions through the Q&A section on the right hand side.