















2021 was another successful year for SMBP. Thanks to the collaboration of our 700+ volunteers, we were able to increase student attendance by 5% and increase our geographic reach across the UK.

These successes came with added challenges due to the pandemic. Schools and colleges continue to deliver the catch-up agenda, leaving little room for consideration of career enrichment programmes outside of the curriculum. Similarly, businesses have had to adapt to the pandemic with some also experiencing reduced employee headcount reducing their capacity to volunteer their time and resource. We are incredibly grateful to all our partners, businesses, charities, local councils and schools, who continue to support SMBP in these difficult times.



2022 will bring new and exciting additions to our Programme. We are working with Dallaglio Rugby Works to motivate students who have been removed from full time education to work towards an attainable career. We are also pleased to announce our partnership with Sanctus, who we will work with to normalise conversation about mental health as well as increasing students awareness and understanding.

We special thanks our funders and volunteers, without your continued support SMBP would not be possible.















#### Thank you to our participating and student sourcing partners for their ongoing support



























































































































































































































































































## **2021 Programme Locations**

in the surrounding areas. The launch of our National Online week provided the opportunity for students in more rural areas of the UK to take part in one in one of our Programmes. As a result of the pandemic we were unable to engage with schools effectively in Belfast and Cardiff. We therefore had to make the difficult decision not to run Clusters in these regions. We look forward to welcoming Belfast back and launching Cardiff in 2022. Glasgow **Bradford** 90 Leeds Blackpool South Yorkshire Manchester & Oldham Norwich Rugby & Coventry Birmingham Greater London x 8 clusters Bristol Dorset Brighton Reading SMBP regional programmes

In 2021 SMBP and its partners delivered Work Insight and Skills 💸

weeks to 473 students across the UK. We delivered Programmes in 15 towns and cities with local employers, for students living

Home regions of the students who participated in the National Online Week

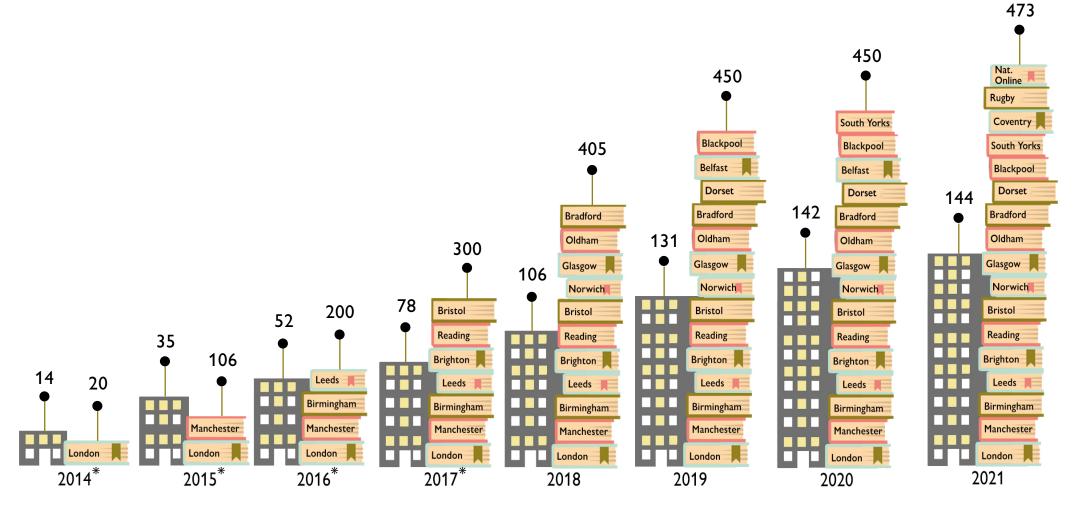
#### Our Growth History

#### Key

Participating organisations

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SMBP Regions and student participants



 $<sup>^{*}</sup>$  Operating as the Legal Social Mobility Partnership

#### 2021 Student Participant Breakdown



<sup>\*</sup> Have been eligible for free school meals, <u>or</u> live in a postcode with a Quintile 1 POLAR rating, <u>or</u> live in a postcode which has a Cat. 4 or 5 ACORN rating, <u>or</u> gross household income is equal to or less than the average household expenditure for that area.

#### **Programme Delivery**

Student Feedback

Students were invited to provide feedback following each live webinar and complete a post programme survey; the latter measuring the impact the week had on their key competencies as well as their overall experience. They confirmed the following:

82%



of students rated their SMBP week good or very good

100%



of students said they would recommend the SMBP Programme to other students 97%



of students said they have a better or firm idea what they would like to do for a job/career in the future

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Please rate yourself against the following skills, thinking about the impact the SMBP week has had on each:

Teamwork & Leadership



90% rated their understanding good or very good

Communication



90% rated their understanding good or very good

Resilience & Goal Planning



92% rated their understanding good or very good

Creativity & Problem Solving



92% rated their understanding good or very good

#### **Programme Delivery**

#### Student Feedback

#### 

When thinking about what you have gained as a result of the SMBP week please rate the following statements:

I am aware of how a business operates & what they are looking for in employees



91% of students agree

I have come away with relevant experience that I can include in my CV and talk about in interviews



90% of students agree

I have learnt about practical things I can do to help me reach my career goals



89% of students agree

The experience will strengthen my personal statement for applications, e.g. to University



90% of students agree

When thinking about what you have gained as a result of SMBP, how do you now rate yourself against the following:

Your understanding of the different career opportunities available to you within the organisations which hosted sessions



94% rated their understanding good or very good

Your understanding of the qualifications and skills needed to get a career in Law



89% rated their understanding good or very good

Your understanding of the qualifications and skills needed to get a career in Finance



58% rated their understanding good or very good

Your motivation to achieve your career goals



93% rated their improvement good or very good

"I really enjoyed how we worked in a team to figure out what our target costumer would/would not enjoy during their journey on our plane. This improved my teamwork skills and afterwards helped me use my presentation skills."

Brighton Cluster student, Collins Aerospace session



"CM Murray delivered a great interactive session that was really useful in showing the aspects of employment law in a realistic scenario"

London Cluster 4 student, CM Murray session "I really enjoyed the Zoom meeting today, and will look at further opportunities that may pop up at PwC"

Bradford Cluster student, PwC session



"The session was very good and interactive, it helped me develop my confidence in presenting and teamwork skills by discussing things with my team"

Manchester & Oldham Cluster student,
TLT session



"I enjoyed learning about the other routes you can take into law other than the traditional route."

Glasgow Cluster student, Pinsent Masons session "It was a great session, the mentors were kind and engaging. The tasks were enjoyable and gave great insight on the legal system and the plethora of careers in civil services. The session was both fun and educational."

Leeds Cluster student, Ministry of Justice session "Thank you very much for the insight and experience, this has made me more intrigued about entertainment law"

London Cluster 2 student, Fremantle session "My favourite parts were the goal planning exercises because they made it easier for me to properly lay out a goal and how I am going to achieve it. I really see myself using these skills in the future."

Bristol Cluster student, Bristol Bears session

"I loved learning about all the different roles at Arsenal, and it was really insightful to learn from an employee at the company."

London Cluster 1 student, Arsenal session



"My favourite part of the day was learning how to present as I learned some helpful tips. I also liked being taught by someone who had a career in something I'm interested in."

Dorset Cluster student, Presentation Skills session "I think my favourite part of the day was having a tour of the lab and seeing what the future might look like, as well as hearing the employees reasons for joining the company"

Rugby & Coventry Cluster student, Meggitt session



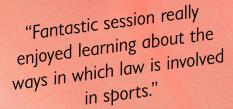
"I enjoyed getting to read the case study and side with a certain person, and then present our opinions to another group"

Glasgow Cluster student, CMS session



"Doing the case study was great as I was able to work on my communication and teamwork skills."

Birmingham Cluster student, SRA session



London Cluster 6 student, Rugby Football Union session "It was really impactful to have multiple members of staff who have different backgrounds/journeys into Tripadvisor, as it proves that it is accessible for everyone who aspires to get into the field"

London Cluster 3 student, Tripadvisor session "They were very interactive, friendly & it was very intresting. We learnt about the planet and even how switching to sustainable pension schemes can have a postive impact on the environment, as well as getting an insight to loads of different career options."

Norwich Cluster student, Aviva session

"Thank you! I really found today's session informative and it was great to hear from members of the company from very junior to rather senior positions."

Reading Cluster student, Microsoft session



"My favourite part was knowing how a tribunal is staged and how the cross examination takes place. Thank you for letting me join!"

Manchester & Oldham Cluster student,
General Medical Council session

"Great seminar, probably the best I've been in!."

Bradford Cluster student, Santander session



"I enjoyed the Dragons Den challenge, and working with my group and coming up with ideas on how to reduce food waste. I liked the creative side of it and listening to other's ideas and seeing it all come together in the end."

London Cluster 5 student, BNY Mellon session



"I liked the project because we had to make our own campaign which was really cool, learning about the legal side of advertising was also really enjoyable."

Bristol Cluster student, Yeo Valley session "This was the most physically interactive session out of the whole week and it was amazing. I loved every activity they put forward. We had to use not only our physical skills but also our mental skills. This session skills but also our mental skills. This session really opened my communication skills and taught me there are different ways to communicate and interact with my team not only talking"

Rugby & Coventry Cluster student,

RAF session

"The panel at the end was very insightful. Hearing from multiple people who worked in different sectors speak on their experiences gave me a better insight into the business world of entertainment we don't see."

London Cluster 8 student, ITV session



"I enjoyed the activities and the style of teaching from different speakers."

Dorset Cluster student, Insight into Leadership session

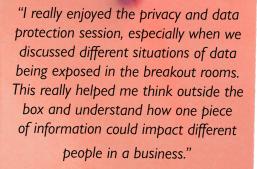
"My favourite part of the session was learning more about the different types of jobs in technology because it helps me decide what I want to do in the future."

London Cluster 7 student, Concep session



"Best session of the week!"

Leeds Cluster student, Aviva session



Brighton Cluster student, Rentokil Initial session



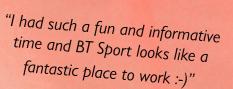
"I loved getting a really in-depth insight into the roles and lives of the three solicitors at the start. I also loved getting to take part in a debate session, which was wonderful."

Brighton Cluster student, Mishcon de Reya session



"When we got to go into breakout rooms we spoke to lawyers about the variety of work they do in their day to day job. It was really insightful to be able to learn about their experience as an in-house lawyer compared to a law firm"

London Cluster 3 student, Amazon session



London Cluster 1 student, BT Sport session

"I enjoyed the Q&A session at the end of the day as you could see all the different departments that are available to work in and it made me realise that I could do other routes than just university."

Norwich Cluster student, ITV session "The team activity was great as it was really interactive and quite different to what I've done before in previous webinars."

London Cluster 8 student, KFC session

#### Participating Business Partner Testimonials



"Presenting is something that has not come easy to me, but I was really keen to develop these skills and was fortunately given the responsibility to take the lead on HMRC's day during SMBP's insight week. I felt it was important to showcase what HMRC was about and how the students could go about getting into the Civil Service because I myself didn't have the option to go University and wanted to highlight the wonderful opportunities available for them should they feel like they were out of options.

It was an amazing opportunity to work with the young individuals as we got to test their knowledge of HMRC via a game of Kahoot and help them understand and develop behavioural statement examples they could use in future job applications. Thanks to the SMBP for giving us the chance to showcase what HMRC has to offer, and I really hope we are able to do this in person next year!"

Ismail Ahmad, Risk Analyst, HMRC

"Working with SMBP was a great addition to our usual work experience programme. Students gained an additional week of work experience in a variety of sectors and we were able to engage our clients on social mobility matters. The SMBP team delivered a seamless service and were supportive, organised and flexible. We look forward to taking part again next year!"

Katy Webb, Diversity & Corporate Responsibility Coordinator, Sidley Austin







"The Team who took part in this years' Brighton SMBP cluster session really enjoyed the time with the students and found them to be thoroughly engaged. Running an online session was a new experience for us and whilst it cannot replicate the face to face sessions it worked very well. There was plenty of participation in the discussions in the break out rooms and the students feedback to the "Board" was impressive and made the event extremely worthwhile. We are grateful to have the opportunity of participating in these events and hope that our input helps in some way to shape the future of the students who took part."

Kelly Young, Litigation & Claims Manager, Southern Water

#### Participating Business Partner Testimonials

"Our first in-person event with SMBP was planned for April 2020 so we were naturally disappointed when that had to be cancelled. We need not have worried. Because of the hard work and determination of the SMBP Team we were able to host our session online in 2020. The online programme was a great success and we were delighted to subsequently be invited to be involved with SMBP's first National Online week in 2021. It is a reflection of SMBP's vision and commitment to the cause of social mobility that they didn't just cancel events during the pandemic but instead made the most of the situation we all faced. We are now looking forward to the return of the 'in-person' programme as that will enable us to offer SMBP students the opportunity to see our solicitors and barristers in action at our hearing centre and experience what it might take to qualify as a doctor in the UK through a visit to our doctor assessment centre. Roll on 2022!"

James Stables, Principal Legal Adviser, GMC



General Medical Council



"It was an honour to take part in the first SMBP Rugby & Coventry cluster and the only in-person cluster in 2021. It's so important that employers come together to support young people in realising their true potential and the SMBP programme is structured in a great way to do this. We hosted sessions led by our employees, including our graduates and apprentices, to give the students an understanding of the various different career paths that Meggitt and other organisations have. Andy Street also shared his views on the skills we need for the future, which was fantastic for the students to hear, as it was the skills they'd been developing all week! Working with the SMBP team was brilliant, the week was organised extremely well and the students were incredibly bright and eager to learn. They presented to us and we were amazed at the progress they'd made in such a short space of time. They all have very bright futures ahead of them! Thank you for allowing Meggitt to be a part of the brilliant work you do!"

Marie Smart, Head of Early Careers, Meggitt

#### **Student Sourcing Partner Testimonials**

Rather than reinventing the wheel each time we open a cluster in a new region, we partner with local social enterprises, charities, businesses and councils who have pre-existing relationships with students from low income backgrounds in their area. We also work with larger organisations with multiple local hubs such as the Sutton Trust and IntoUniversity.



Mishcon de Reya

"I've been working with the Brighton Cluster to help source students interested in joining the SMBP programme for a few years now, and have enjoyed every minute. The pandemic has meant that we've had to hold the programme virtually for the last two years, but we've been delighted to see that the students have been as engaged as ever, and remain as determined to learn as much as they possibly can from the experience. Whilst I have missed the opportunity to meet with our students in person during the application process, I've worked closely with the SMBP team, IntoUniversity and our contacts in the schools and colleges in the Brighton area. This collaboration has meant that we've once more had a fantastic number of Brighton students applying – and speaking to each of the SMBP students during the process about their reasons for applying has brought home to me how important it is for us all to provide this opportunity. The rest of the Mishcon SMBP team and I are looking forward to what next year will bring!"

Nina O'Sullivan, Legal Director, Mishcon de Reya

"I can't really find the words to thank you once again for the opportunity you give our students with the SMBP sessions you ran in Dorchester. I am truly humbled by your dedication and commitment. My students have had the best time, yet again, they are absolutely glowing with praise for all of the sessions they have attended and bursting with new knowledge and skills. The proof was in the outstanding way these super shy and in-experienced students just absolutely shone with their potential employers tonight. It was a joy to see and this is exactly why I do my job for moments like this."

Melanie Miller, Weymouth College







"A massive thank you to the SMBP team for continuing to provide our students with valuable, insightful and informative experiences to explore businesses and career options! For us at The Sutton Trust, great industry insight opportunities should increase student confidence, build new skills and support students with making informed choices about their future and the fantastic SMBP weeks helped our students develop in all of these areas. Thank you to SMBP and their delivery organisations for supporting our students!"

Gemma Collins, The Sutton Trust

# New Cluster Case Study - Rugby & Coventry

At Meggitt, people are at the centre of our sustainable future. This year, we were extremely proud and delighted to launch the inaugural Rugby and Coventry Cluster, which provided an opportunity for 20 Year 12 students from low-income backgrounds in Rugby and Coventry, to complete the SMBP Work Insight & Skills Week.

With students still feeling the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, we made a decision to do everything we could to ensure that the Cluster would be delivered in-person, and in doing so, become the first in-person SMBP Week since August 2019! We were delighted to have support from Wasps RFC for the Resilience Day, the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC) on the Wednesday, the Royal Air Force (RAF) who hosted a day at the Meggitt facility on the Thursday and Squire Patton Boggs who closed the week on Friday.

We liaised closely not only with the local colleges and sixth forms across the region to source students to benefit from the programme, but were particularly excited to work closely with Econominds to source a large number of students, with the introduction made by Manisha Kumar, SMBP Alumni and now SMBP Alumni Advisory Committee member too, who works closely with Econominds.

During the week, the students were focused on learning and developing key competencies and skills which are essential for the world of work. The students had the opportunity to learn about the range of work the organisations do, speed network with colleagues across different companies in a broad range of sectors, partake in practical business games reflecting the day-to-day operations at our partners, whilst also hearing from apprentices and graduates who were keen to share their experiences and stories from when they were in Year 12 themselves, to highlight the range of career paths open and available at that stage. There was also a keynote address to the students by Andy Street, the Mayor of West Midlands on the Meggitt day, who emphasised the importance of Teamwork, Communication, Resilience and Creative Problem Solving, the key competencies the week focused on. A 'Week in the Life' video was produced to show how the students spent their Work Insight Week, which can be viewed here.

The support we received from the team at SMBP was priceless – having partaken in the scheme myself 5 years ago in 2016, and being the volunteer Head of Alumni, I had a strong grasp of what needed to be done, however, it was my first experience of being a Cluster Head. With the invaluable guidance from Jess, Rose and Jade, I was confident that the week would be a success.

We thoroughly enjoyed building and maintaining a relationship with these young people and look forward to continuing to welcoming students again next year!

- Muhammad Gangat, Rugby & Coventry Cluster Head

With thanks to the following organisations for their contribution throughout the week...



**MEGGITT** 







We are pleased to introduce the SMBP Alumni Advisory Committee! This committee is formed of SMBP alumni students from across the UK with varied career interests. They will work alongside the SMBP team to increase students' engagement and experience whilst on a SMBP Programme. Welcome to the SMBP team!



I completed the Social Mobility Business Partnership Work Insight and Skills Week in the first week of August back in 2019.

Throughout the week I engaged in interactive workshops which helped me develop my skills. With Latham & Watkins I developed my ability to appreciate the viewpoints of others while debating, as well as present my line of argument in a clear manner. With ING, I participated in a negotiation exercise that enhanced my skill of employing a persuasive tone of voice. Whilst with Fuse, I cooperated in a team exercise that bestowed me with the confidence to present an idea in front of a group. I developed my leadership skills with Google in an exercise where I proposed a new phone application to developers. During my Resilience Day at Harlequins, I engaged in various team-building exercises which further ensured that I was confident was tasked with working in a team.

- Stefan Nikolov, Class of 2019

During my SMBP week in 2018, I went to Microsoft, Verizon, Vertias and O2. At Microsoft, I learnt the different types of lawyers the routes to qualification which was paramount aiding my legal journey. Learning about the business ventures of the companies and their industry considerations but also their legal side, such as the work completed by their in-house lawyers, aided in honing my ambition to pursue Law at University but also especially being interested in commercial and corporate law. At O2, I negotiated in a room of 20+ people, including company employees, through a fake auctioning scenario. I utilised the negotiation and presentation skills taught at the beginning of the week and importantly, I reached outside my comfort zone causing a dramatic increase in my confidence and public speaking. Having the opportunity to create solid public speaking skills has aided my life after SMBP. Being the mentor coordinator at my university's society, I have used these skills skill in networking and pitching our mentoring programme to potential partners.

- Manisha Kumar, Class of 2018





During my SMBP week, I was able to gain insight into a range of career paths and the pathways into these. It also helped me determine whether law is for me, as well as developing skills I felt were lacking, in particular my ability to communicate and network as I was pushed out of my comfort zone. I felt that the results of presenting and participating in SMBP tasks were a big motivation and the feedback incredibly beneficial. As a result, I am now capable of presenting to an audience and feel as though I am in a good position to adapt and take on an array of tasks in the workplace.

During my career journey so far I have undertaken Pro Bono work, volunteering for the Freedom Law Clinic, and as a legal research project volunteer. My current Pro Bono volunteer role is as an Amicus case worker, which involves being assigned cases and summarising them to compile accessible resources for lawyers. I have also applied for work experience and internships with the Civil Service Fast Stream and Slaughter and May.

- Megan Hoxhaj, Class of 2020

I am a second year solicitor apprentice at Ashurst within the firm's Corporate Projects practice. The week I spent with the SMBP did more for my personal development than I initially realised. Not only was I meeting likeminded young people in similar situations as myself and expanding my network, I was also meeting people in these huge companies and being able to learn from them. I had also never had access to work experience before the program and I felt empowered whenever I stepped into each building as the possibility of a high flying career seemed so much more in reach. We also experienced a session on Resilience on our final day with the SMBP which I still remember and attempt to implement when I am experiencing a stressful period balancing both work and study.







In 2020, I joined the SMBP Insight week. Since taking part, I've definitely taken the skills I picked up with me in my next steps; a lot more confidence, self-branding, teamwork, and a much stronger idea of how to plan for my career, to name a few. I knew I wanted to go into finance, but didn't know the exact route to take and so the SMBP Work Insight Week was a big help. After the week, I took up part-time work as a website admin at a furniture company and took part in PwC's Insight Week, all whilst also completing four A-Levels and my EPQ (thankfully the pandemic gave me plenty of study time). I submitted my university applications and worked in a collections department over the summer. I got the offer to study Economics at UCL, immediately accepted, and made the move in September. Since, I've joined the dodgeball team and the Investment Society, and completed a J.P Morgan virtual internship. Today, here I am as an Alumni Committe member for the SMBP. I'm very excited to see what comes next!

- Megan Fisher, Class of 2020

Now in my second year of my law degree at the University of Nottingham, I attended SMBP's Bristol Cluster in 2019. The week really helped me kick-start my carer journey. It has allowed me to develop my CV. In my first job interview, my interviewer immediately asked me about an experience I had with Yeo Valley during my SMBP week. Furthermore, I have used the invaluable experiences with household names such as BT and ITV to stand out in applications to city law firms. Additionally, the confidence I developed in professional environments throughout the week helped me perform my best in interviews and networking events. SMBP really helped me get over the imposter syndrome I once had regarding professional settings. This led me to secure open days and first-year schemes with firms such as Linklaters and Hogan Lovells.



- Kerry Lewis, Class of 2019



My journey in law started back in high school where I completed the young lawyer programme and an insight into law scheme at a firm in Manchester. I then joined college and started studying law as an A-Level and fell in love with the subject. I moved to London and unfortunately had to switch courses, so I chose subjects that paired nicely with law while also being enjoyable. In 2019 I took part in SMBP's Work Insight Programme and have never looked back. During my time with SMBP I gained more than just a simple insight into the field I chose as my career. I gained friends, networking contacts, insights to different pathways, different methods, opportunities, and so much more. The SMBP week changed the trajectory of my life as I knew it. While one door closed, the week opened an unbelievable amount of new doors that would never have been possible without it. Since the SMBP, I have partaken in various law opportunities have which only solidified my choice to study law and become a lawyer. I now study both English and Scots law in Scotland where I am also a member of my universities law clinic, too. I am looking to qualify as an English solicitor in England and work within the corporate law sphere.

- Tara Waldman, Class of 2019

I completed my SMBP Work Insight Week in the Summer of 2018. This was a lifechanging experience for me for so many reasons and I do not think I can find the right words to truly summarise what this programme has done for me. I had the opportunity to meet people from different walks of life and establish a support system where we still are encouraging each other to pursue legal opportunities and other ways to better our career. I will always be grateful for SMBP as it gave me the opportunity to be surrounded by like-minded people determined to not let our gender, ethnicity or socio-economic background get in the way of reaching our goals. I was also able to network with some of the most incredible solicitors and learn about the working of a silver circle firm. I think for me being able to take part in this experience changed my mindset. This programme gave me the skills and network needed to excel and taught me that believing in myself and being resilient is key to succeeding, which is why I am here studying law in my final year despite health issues and being educated during a worldwide pandemic. If anyone asks if SMBP has impacted my career journey, I would say it made my career journey and I am forever grateful.

- Nadia Akthar, Class of 2018



I took part in the SMBP programme in 2018 with the Birmingham cluster. I was able to gain insight into ITV's and Barclays' in-house legal teams. I did not know much about in-house lawyers, so this was very eye-opening for me. I was also able to see the intersection of law and media at ITV, and law and finance with Barclays. This helped me understand the role law played in both sectors. It further showed me the diversity of skills that I would need. The programme also enabled me to build competency and soft skills. This was through team working activities at Deutsche Bank and at the SRA. These helped me with communication, problem-solving, presentation, and negotiation skills. They enabled me to get an insight into the behind-the-scenes work that a lawyer would be doing and the high standards of professionalism and ethics of a lawyer. One of the most impactful days was the Resilience Day with Wasps. The sessions that they led focussed on internal development and self-management. They used real-life scenarios to teach us about the impact of too much stress and how to manage our emotions. I gained more confidence in knowing how to handle myself under pressure as they gave me a toolkit to refer to. It was very empowering.



- Tenishia Prah, Class of 2018



Hello, I'm Kofo and I am currently a first year law student at LSE. As an aspiring law student at the time, the SMBP week allowed me to get an insight into the work of lawyers in a variety of organisations. One of the companies I met during the week (BNY Mellon) was exactly the type of client a commercial law firm would deal with, another was a media company with in-house lawyers and the other organisations often worked closely with legal professionals as well. Doing this not only opened my eyes to the range of ways in which law impacts business but also helped me develop useful insight and skills which I hope will benefit me as a lawyer in the future.

- Kofo Bobo, Class of 2020

I am currently a Year 13 student at BHASVIC college in Brighton studying A level History, English Literature and Language, Polish, and Textiles. My SMBP journey began in 2021 virtually. By being a part of the SMBP insight week I was able to practise resilience and teamwork with my colleagues whilst co-operating with professionals in the field. This experience boosted my confidence that I can excel in a career in law and finance, tasks such as practising negotiations excites me for my next steps in my career. I was inspired to work hard and persevere in my own journey, thanks to the speakers who throughout the week demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment to what they do. Through this programme I too want to inspire others in the same way that this programme inspired me.



- Julia Gadek, Class of 2021



I am a final year LLB Corporate Law student at Salford University. I completed the SMBP Insight and Skills week in 2019. The scheme was a pivotal moment in my career journey as it gave me the confidence to realise that I can succeed in the corporate world. The scheme has shaped the person I am today; I would never have had the confidence to present in front of an audience of 30-40 people before the insight week. I continually use my experiences from the scheme to showcase my skills in law firm applications and during interviews. During the scheme, I participated in several strategic tasks, and some highlights included a product development pitch at Dow Jones and a dragon's den exercise at BNY Mellon. The scheme ultimately allowed me to explore different career avenues and determine that the role of a solicitor suits my skills and attributes.

- Chloe Taylor, Class of 2019

## A message from the SMBP Patrons...

# A **huge** thank you to everyone involved, bring on 2022!



Martin Lewis OBE
Money Saving Expert



Helen Mahy CBE
Non-Exec Director, SSE plc and
Equality & Human Rights
Commissioner



Baroness Prashar of Runnymede CBE House of Lords



Mark Soden

Managing Director,

Cleartrack Performance

