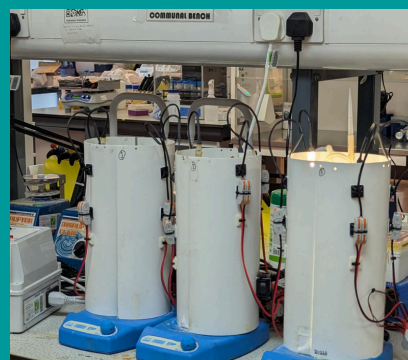


INSIDE THE LAB: EXPLORING FUTURE CAREERS IN SCIENCE



Dates

14th April 2026

Students

15 year 9 PE students

Employer

Sheffield Sharks

School

The Laurel Academy

EqualEx Learning Objectives

- Increase awareness of careers and opportunities within STEM
- Develop understanding of how curriculum subjects link to future education and careers
- Gain inspiration through direct engagement with researchers and exposure to real-world scientific innovation.

Itinerary (9am - 2pm)

- Introduction to the University of Sheffield and ongoing research into sustainable algae technologies.
- Careers in Science Session exploring STEM roles, career pathways and what a day in the life of a scientist looks like.
- Behind-the-Scenes Tour of The Diamond including engineering laboratories, cleanrooms and research facilities.
- Hands-On Research Experience in the algae laboratories, using specialist equipment and learning how scientific research is conducted.
- Group Challenges & Reflection focused on real-world applications of algae, careers activities and future aspirations.



Impact

- Increased awareness of careers within science, engineering, sustainability and research, exposing students to a range of opportunities they may not previously have considered.
- Developed a greater understanding of how STEM subjects studied in school are applied to solve real-world challenges, including sustainability, climate change and resource management.
- Gained first-hand experience of university life, helping to raise aspirations and make higher education feel more accessible and achievable.
- Explored active research laboratories and specialist facilities, providing insight into the day-to-day work of scientists, engineers and researchers.
- Improved teamwork, communication and critical thinking skills through practical tasks, discussions and group activities.
- Increased confidence in engaging with professionals and asking questions about careers, education and future pathways.