

Community Investment in the UK: 2016/17



June 2017





A word of welcome

As one of the world's largest independent financial advisory groups, we offer a distinct perspective that makes a meaningful difference to our clients' business and wealth across four market-leading business divisions: Global Advisory, Private Wealth, Asset Management and Merchant Banking.

We take a long-term view on the challenges our clients face and act as a trusted partner to them; we apply the same creative, thoughtful and principled approach to investing in our community as we do to the rest of our business, creating mutually beneficial results.

Our community investment ambition is to raise and realise the aspirations of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Offering a combination of skills-based employee volunteering and strategic financial contributions we pursue long term partnerships with charities, educational establishments and social enterprises which share our ambition.

We focus on helping young people to develop the skills that will help them to succeed at school and in the workplace, and on instilling in them the confidence to be more ambitious.

In addition, we use our advisory skills to help social enterprises whose aims are aligned with ours to develop and transform their business models.

The outcome

- Young people from disadvantaged backgrounds are helped to develop skills, make more ambitious educational choices and enter employment or training.
- Employees develop a range of personal and professional skills and report an increase in job satisfaction and pride in working for Rothschild & Co.
- By demonstrating our commitment to addressing a critical social issue, and by enabling our employees to play a role within this, we are true to our guiding principles.
- We are a firm that is respected by clients and the community.

This report highlights some of the projects and community partners we have been supporting most recently, and provides an insight into our approach to community investment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexandre de Rothschild'.

Alexandre de Rothschild

Our community partners

Through our employee volunteering initiatives and charitable giving programme we partner with the following organisations:



Key achievements

£577,558

was invested towards charitable causes.

2,441 hours

were spent volunteering by 43% of employees, at a value of c.£150,000.

350

opportunities were provided for young people to take part in one of our initiatives.

75%

of the young people we supported developed one or more employability skill and 21% went on to pursue more ambitious education pathways than they had otherwise planned.

99%

of volunteers made improvements in one or more job-related skills, 99% of volunteers experienced an increased sense of job satisfaction and 72% of volunteers feel a greater sense of pride in working for Rothschild & Co as a result of participating.



Case study: Ashoka

Through Ashoka, we partner with social enterprises that are aligned with our ambition to raise and realise the aspirations of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. We utilise our advisory skills in order to help social enterprises achieve greater financial sustainability and / or enhance their business model and help them to scale their business and increase their impact on disadvantaged young people.

Over the course of six months, a team of Rothschild & Co volunteers supported Mike Sani, an Ashoka fellow and his organisation, Bite the Ballot (of which he is CEO and Founder). Bite the Ballot is revolutionising young people's participation in politics and empowering them with the knowledge to use their power to vote, to have their opinions heard and ultimately to engage with politicians to drive the political agenda.

David Weinberg, a volunteer on the project described his experience:

"We utilised the skills we use on a day to day basis to help critique Mike's business plans, help the team enhance their presentation skills, and assist them with building financial models to help the charity operate more efficiently."

Ashoka identified Mike as one of the Fellows within its network that could greatly benefit from Rothschild & Co's support.

"I enjoyed the variety of expertise and the depth of knowledge Rothschild & Co could draw upon and apply to our aims and objectives... I thank you all once again for this journey and all that's come as a result. I really appreciate the enthusiasm and dedication from the Rothschild team and I hope we can work together again in the future."

CEO of Bite the Ballot

Case study: Future First

Secondary students at risk of dropping out of education are to be supported by former students from their schools to boost their ambition and chance of securing a good career. The Employability Skills Project funded through the Rothschild & Co Charitable Giving programme and run by the national education charity Future First will equip current students with skills they need to succeed in work after leaving school and help them overcome barriers to achieving their potential.

The project will support disadvantaged groups of young people currently in Year 9 who have been identified as being at risk of dropping out of school at 16 and not going into education, training or employment. Over three years, they will work with former students from their schools who will coach them in activities to build self-awareness, confidence and drive and help them increase their understanding of their future career options.

Future First research shows alumni have a powerful influence on the aspirations and confidence of young people. 85% of students say that alumni events help them to understand that ‘people like me’ can be successful while 84% report that meeting alumni motivated them to work harder in school. The three year initiative will focus on developing students’ personal capabilities and communication skills through support from positive role models in the form of their schools’ alumni. Students will undertake an interview with employers in regional industry held outside school in a work setting. The interview aims to test the skills the students have learned and encourage them to meet high standards of professionalism.



“Future First research shows alumni have a powerful influence on the aspirations and confidence of young people.”

Christine Gilbert, Executive Chair of Future First and a former Ofsted Chief Inspector said, “Every state school student should have the opportunity to succeed in life after school, regardless of their background. If students see ‘people like me’ have succeeded, they are more likely to believe they can too. They work harder and have higher expectations of success. We want more schools to see the benefits of using their alumni as a powerful resource.”

Schools taking part include Looe Community Academy in Cornwall, Orchard School in Bristol and Neale-Wade Academy in Cambridgeshire.

Case study: The Access Project

A Level Maths is one of the least likely subjects a 16 year old from an economically deprived background will study. This bars them from studying a range of STEM subjects at top universities across the UK, and from pursuing careers in related fields such as Finance, Engineering and Economics.

The partnership between Rothschild & Co and The Access Project provides support in a variety of ways to help address this, including introducing a framework for tuition underpinning the Maths A Level curriculum in order to personalise the academic support students on the programme receive in tutorials.



“Rothschild & Co have mobilised 26 volunteers across London and Birmingham to utilise their time as volunteers to work with students from disadvantaged backgrounds providing an hour per week of academic tutorial support across GCSE and A Level in a range of subjects including not only Maths, but Economics and Sciences also.

During the lifetime of the partnership, Rothschild & Co tutors have delivered almost four hundred hours of one to one academic tuition to students aspiring to attend selective universities.”

Volunteer Manager at The Access Project

“Before I was a part of The Access Project I would never have thought about applying to a top university, but now I realise I’m good enough.”

The Access Project Tutee

To find out more please visit the Rothschild website or contact community.investment@rothschild.com