

ThinkForward at a Glance

The challenge



In the UK, **11.7%** of 16 - 24 year olds **are failing to transition from education into employment**

843,000

youth are NEET in the UK
(Not in Education, Employment or Training)

Youth who are NEET for more than 6 months are more likely to **be out of work again in the future and to have a criminal record.**

NEET youth cost an estimate £34bn to the economy and society

At a glance:

ThinkForward works with schools to identify the most at-risk youth and commits to supporting them for five years through their transition from high school to employment or college. The program stands out for its evidence-based approach and rigorous tracking of indicators to constantly measure organizational performance and social impact during and after the program. Research shows that 96% of 17 to 18 year olds who participated in the program are currently employed, enrolled in higher education or completing vocational training. 85% of the 13-18 year olds in the program have shown improvements in both their attendance and behavior at school. ThinkForward currently has over 1000 students enrolled across 16 schools in London and it is expanding in another two cities in the UK.

Key programs:

Coaching in School

ThinkForward places highly qualified and skilled 'super coaches' in schools where they identify and work with young people most at risk of failing to make a successful transition into work. Coaches provide support starting at the age of 13, when young people make decisions about which exams to take and need information about the types of jobs in their local area and guidance on the skills and qualifications required for entry into those jobs. The coaches also help young people make full use of the existing services in their community, prepare them to begin working, and gain exposure to different career options that might be available to them.

Ready for Work Program

In 2015, ThinkForward launched the Ready for Work Program to facilitate young people's transition from education to employment.

The program aims at developing the behaviors, mind-sets and skills employers look for in their workforce. In 2015/2016, coaches drew upon the support of over 350 professional volunteers to provide young people with over 1000 Ready for Work activities. All young people in the program are offered business mentoring, work experience placements, work insight days and skill workshops, including CV writing and interview practice.

Key facts:

● Area of operations supported by Epic Foundation



Age Range
13-18

Staff
42

Beneficiaries
1,140

Budget
\$2,758,253.73

Sector
**Education,
Economic
empowerment**

Year est.
2011

(2017 data estimate)