

THE
B!G
iDEA

Student Accelerator

2024



The 2024 B!G Student Accelerator was a dynamic and inspiring day, where creative thinking, collaboration, and innovation took centre stage in Autodesk in Dublin!

Further bridging the gap between industry and education, **12 standout student teams**, nurtured through The B!G Idea programme, had the amazing opportunity to be part of a one-day sprint to develop their ideas even further with the help of **B!G Mentors**.

Throughout the day, students got stuck in and applied their creative skills to **real-world challenges** linked to the **17 UN SDGs**. With workshops led by industry experts, and mentor support and guidance, they transformed their B!G ideas into tangible **digital prototypes**, gaining invaluable insights and moving a step closer to making some of these ideas a reality.

Students ended the day by coming up with some incredibly creative ways to **pitch their B!G ideas**, wowing our panel of industry leaders with their innovative solutions and unique deliveries. What a day!





**“ Give [The B!G
Idea] your all
and treat it like
it matters,
because it does! ”**

Róise,
Student, St. Joseph's Grammar School

61

Students and learners from our Transition Year, LCA, Youthreach and Northern Ireland programmes arrived with their teachers and coordinators and a whole lot of B!G ideas.

25

B!G Mentors from companies all across Ireland came along to support student teams and get stuck in to some serious creative thinking and collaboration!

02

Exciting industry-led workshops! Mick Torrans from Mastercard led teams in Digital Prototyping and Michelle Fogarty from Life Scientific helped students 'Pitch like a Pro'!

12

Incredible student teams took to the stage to pitch to the room. Our expert panelists, Dawn Carty from MSD Ireland and Amanda Fennell from Autodesk, gave students and learners invaluable feedback to help their ideas get even B!GGER and better!





Student Impact

80%

feel better prepared for future career opportunities because of The B!G Idea programme.

67%

feel they improved their understanding of the UN SDGs after participating in The B!G Idea.

71%

feel inspired to explore new career ideas since completing The B!G Idea.

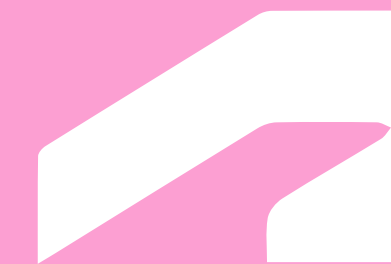
“The EU is committed to supporting innovation, and leading us towards a more sustainable and digitally connected future. And right here, in this room, you are already taking the lead.”

Maria Walsh,
Member of the European Parliament





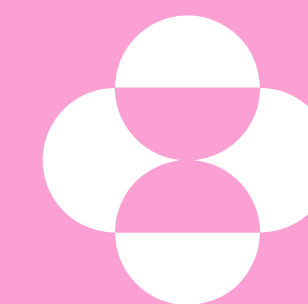
Thank You!



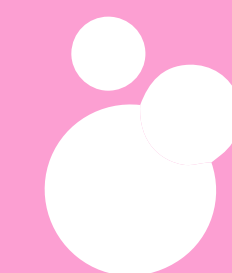
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