

Educational Programme for Secondary School Students:

Visit to the UZ Gent Biobank

Ghent University (UGent) offers an engaging educational programme that enables secondary school students to explore the innovative world of biomedical research through a guided visit to the UZ Gent Biobank. This initiative introduces young learners to the scientific, ethical, and societal foundations of biobanking, while inspiring interest in health sciences and research careers.

There is considerable and growing interest in this programme. Each year, the UZ Gent Biobank welcomes approximately five secondary schools, reflecting the enthusiasm of teachers and students to gain firsthand insight into modern biomedical research.

During the visit, students receive an accessible introduction to the purpose and value of biobanks, the importance of collecting biological samples, and the ways in which these materials contribute to medical progress.

They learn about the role of biobanking in the development of new diagnostics, improved therapies, and personalized medicine. Key ethical aspects—such as informed consent, data protection, and standardized procedures—are also highlighted.

Students are guided behind the scenes of the UZ Gent Biobank, where they can observe how samples are processed, registered, stored, and prepared for research use. Through interactive explanations and real-life examples, they gain insight into the collaboration between clinicians, researchers, and laboratory teams.

By connecting classroom biology to real-world clinical science, this educational visit aims to offer a motivating and inspiring learning experience. Through this programme, UGent and the UZ Gent Biobank hope to nurture scientific curiosity and encourage future generations to pursue studies in science, technology, engineering, and medicine.

More information about the biobank visits can be found here:

[Wat is een biobank en waarom verzamelen we menselijk lichaamsmateriaal voor wetenschappelijk onderzoek? | Educatief aanbod](#)

