

STEM AMBASSADOR

NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2020

Welcome to the latest edition of your local STEM Ambassador update!

Firstly, a THANK YOU to you, our fantastic STEM Ambassadors who have given so much time and effort despite the uncertainty and challenges of 2020. As we enter another national lockdown, schools remain open and still need your support to inspire their pupils about STEM. We have had many requests from teachers wanting to give their pupils the chance to hear about STEM careers and bring the curriculum to life – can you help?

STEM Ambassadors are wonderful role models, and can offer schools and colleges 'virtual visits' – see page 3 for more details.

We were delighted by the response to our STEM Inspiration Week which ran via Zoom from 12th – 16th October and reached over 8000 students across the region. Students watched inspirational STEM Ambassadors like yourself give presentations about their careers and sectors. All these sessions are available to view on our [YouTube Channel](#) and are a valuable resource for schools who were unable to attend due to timetable restrictions. These presentations are also great for young people to view independently. We'd welcome more recordings like this, and we're also planning further events, so please let us know if you'd like to be involved.

Nuffield Research Placements will open applications to 17 year old students on the 9th November, and we are looking for projects

that can be supervised by STEM Ambassadors for two weeks next summer. More than 250 students from disadvantaged backgrounds benefitted from online support and mentoring in our region in 2020, most also achieving CREST Awards for their work – could you offer a project? See page 2 for more details.

Our online networking sessions have proved very popular and we have really enjoyed meeting you! It's great to have your input and ideas on how to positively influence young people during these challenging times. Some of these sessions are just for STEM Ambassadors and offer advice and training, whilst others include teachers, sharing ideas and future plans. If you haven't been able to do any other volunteering this year, perhaps now is the time to give an hour or so? Opportunities can be found in this newsletter.

Remember that any online sessions you attend can be logged as activity on your [STEM Learning profile](#).

We always welcome your ideas on new ways to inspire young people at school, in the community and online so please get in touch and get involved!



Helen Spencer
Director, STEMPOINT East



AMBASSADOR & TEACHER CONSULTATION SESSION:

Would you like to find out what support schools need at this time?

Join us on Tuesday 24th November at 4pm for an opportunity to discuss what support schools need at this time.

- Discuss ways in which external STEM experts can help your students back into learning
- Get ideas for linking the curriculum to the world of work
- Find out how to access up-to-date STEM careers information
- Discover opportunities to get involved with schools.
- Find out what support the teachers are asking for.

Have your say in shaping STEM support for schools

Register Here: <https://forms.gle/ExpdQjx9gNuxiMrAA>





Nuffield Research Placements to be delivered by STEM Learning in partnership with the Nuffield Foundation

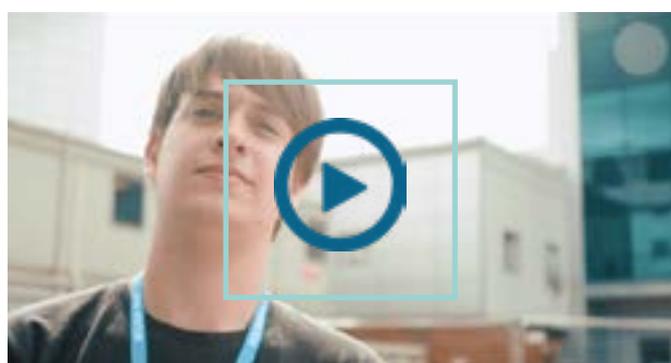
Nuffield Research Placements give young people from disadvantaged backgrounds the opportunity to gain STEM skills and confidence by undertaking active research projects in their summer holidays. The Nuffield Foundation developed this flagship programme over the last 24 years, and an independent evaluation has shown a range of benefits for students including improved access to university courses in STEM subjects. [Read more here.....](#)



Think back to when you were seventeen...

How did you get where you are today?

It's likely there were key individuals and experiences that motivated and inspired you, and it's those experiences that we want to give to young people through our Nuffield Research Placements.



STEMPOINT East are seeking Project Supervisors

Supervisors are needed with availability for TWO WEEKS during July/August 2021. You will provide supervision of project work via a safe Virtual Learning Environment (with visits to workplaces possible, if restrictions allow).

Students work on a research project in any area of STEM, set up by you/the host organisation, but must have a data analysis or quantitative element. Students provide a written report to you at the end of the summer and you will be invited to a celebration event in the Autumn.

Could you inspire a young people to gain STEM skills through research work?

There is NO DIRECT COST for taking part – just a willingness to supervise a young person at the start of their STEM career.

To find out more email:
Sally Moore

s.moore@stempointeast.org.uk



STEM Ambassadors

Are you up-to-date?



DBS Applications are still being processed, however due to lockdown restrictions we are not currently able to verify your ID at the Hub (STEMPOINT East, in Stevenage) but you are still able to have your ID checked by an external verifier. This includes the renewal of expired certificates. There are a wide range of external verifiers who can perform ID checks [please click here for the guidance document](#).

If you have previously registered with the [Update Service](#) and we are able to view your certificate online, please send an email to v.nash@stempointeast.org.uk along with the certificate number.



Record your Activities

If you haven't yet recorded any of the inspiring STEM activities that you have carried out now is the time to do so. All STEM Ambassadors are required to log a minimum of 15 voluntary hours per year to remain active on the system. If you don't know how to record an activity please watch the [video here](#) (scroll down to the bottom of the webpage) [Record you activities here](#).



Free Voluntary Online Courses

There are lots of free online courses that can help you with volunteering activities that STEM Learning have made available: <https://www.stem.org.uk/stem-ambassadors/training-support>

These are a great resource if you are looking for CPD activities to complete whilst working from home.



Searching for STEM Opportunities

Free resources for home learning and continuing in-school delivery
The widespread school closures have created new challenges for everyone supporting young people. STEM Learning is working hard to develop and roll out a range of materials, which we hope will help you. Please see our [How to Get Involved PDF](#) or visit <https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning>



Give Feedback and WIN an Amazon Voucher

1. Add an activity to your [STEM Ambassador account](#)
 2. Complete the feedback [here](#)
 3. Email us to let us know you've completed the feedback - this will enter you into the prize draw.
- Alternatively, if you have any previously added activities which require feedback you can also give feedback on these

Digital Badges
Have you claimed yours?



The STEM Learning website is home to thousands of free-to-access, quality-assured resources to support the teaching and learning of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects.
<https://www.stem.org.uk/resources>

It takes just a few minutes of your day to record your hours.
Log your hours at www.stem.org.uk

A large, stylized clock face with a blue border and hands, set against a red background.

STEM AMBASSADOR HUB

Ready to make an Offer?

STEM Ambassadors can now offer activities to schools and youth groups

An illustration showing a person in a red shirt holding a clipboard and talking to a person in a white lab coat who is holding a molecular model.

Afternoon Masterclasses for STEM Ambassadors

hosted by: Central South England Hub

26th November, 4 – 5pm Cyber Security: We Couldn't Play Games Online Without It!

Led by Dave Oxley, Senior Software Security Architect at McAfee, this session is aimed at teachers and approved STEM Ambassadors.

The internet is a wonderful resource. You can play games, learn new things, play games, chat to people all round the world (free at point of call), play games, and loads of other things. Did I mention playing games?

Unfortunately the cyber world is subject to scammers stalkers, trolls and other nasty people! To protect it we need loads of people to choose to work in cyber security: people from all walks of life and with a wide array of skills. As we move to being more inclusive the cyber world will become more welcoming and supporting for everyone.

To book your place [click here](#).

8th December, 4–5pm from the National Oceanography Centre

Led by Dominique Townsend, a PhD student at the University of Southampton, the session will explore coasts and the processes that shape them. Dominique will provide an insight into how scientists assess coastal evolution and predict future scenarios, highlighting some of the key challenges faced by coastal managers.

Dominique will also be sharing resources linked to the session, alongside the 'coastal detectives' activity, to help inspire students (aimed at KS3-4).

To book your place [click here](#).

Developing presentation skills for professional development and for future STEM Ambassador Activities.

Kerry Baker is hosting a training webinar for STEM Ambassadors, the session will be focused on developing presentation skills for professional development and for future STEM Ambassador Activities.

[Express an interest here](#)

How to Support Schools - webinars

STEM Learning have launched a series of webinars for STEM Ambassadors to show how they can support schools. Led by expert presenters, each webinar will focus on a particular topic and share good practice around making STEM relevant to students.

Here are the first few scheduled webinars:

[How to.. Support Schools with Chemistry: 11 November, 12:00 – 13:00](#)

This webinar highlights the contexts that support chemistry and shows how STEM Ambassadors can help to make nanochemistry real and relevant.

[How to... Become a School Governor: 18 November, 12:00 – 13:00](#)

Find out how taking a strategic role as a school governor enables you to develop your career while helping shape the future of local schools.

[How to...Support Schools with Biology: 25 November, 12:00 – 13:00](#)

This session will illustrate common misconceptions that students have when studying plants and how as a STEM Ambassador you can link to key concepts taught in schools.

[How to... Support Schools with Physics: 9 December, 12:00 – 13:00](#)

This webinar covers key concepts you can support with physics in school and shares common misunderstandings students have when learning about energy.



SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

Would you be interested in supporting pupils from a Special Educational Needs school or setting?

We are looking for STEM Ambassadors who are able to commit to some regular online mentoring for students aged 12-16 (teacher support will also be in place).

TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT KANCHANA VANHOVE
k.vanhove@stempointeast.org.uk

Why did YOU become a STEM Ambassador?



"I learnt about the STEM ambassador programme by attending a networking event at The Cambridge Science Park. I was inspired to see what people were getting involved with. I am passionate about blowing young people's minds with the opportunities that are out there. Unless someone is there to tell them there's a different path in life, they never have known what adventures they could be embarking on!"
Jemima Willcox



Example of Jemima Willcox's 'cheeky selfies'
- portraits of scientists with an image of cells from inside their cheeks



DOWNLOAD THE STEM AMBASSADOR IMPACT REPORT 2020 HERE



PROFILE CARDS

We are putting together a series of introduction cards to highlight active and engaged STEM Ambassadors for teachers to request.

These will be displayed on our website. If you would like to be featured please **complete this form**

Your brilliant work is currently hidden!
Help us to reveal the hidden picture.
Log your hours at www.stem.org.uk

County	Total number of STEM Ambassadors	Number who logged an activity in 2020
Norfolk	327	70
Suffolk	360	122
Cambridgeshire	943	204
Peterborough	196	39
Bedfordshire	509	74
Hertfordshire	1380	221



Deliver a practical session virtually	Support a STEM Club	Give a Virtual Careers Talk	Sign up for our Meet a Scientist initiative	Join one of our Networking Sessions	Become a Mentor
University Clearing and Guidance				Attend a Careers Fair to offer advice on Apprenticeships	Become a Role Model in STEM for Primary Schools
Mentor a CREST project	Host a Site Visit or Lab Tour	Take part in a School Science Week	Support a Community or Youth Group	Download the STEM App on your smartphone	Add your offering to the STEM Database for Teachers to view
					Search www.stem.org.uk for requests from schools near you!

Insurance

Remember that you only have the benefit of the STEM Ambassador Insurance cover if you add the activity to the database before the event takes place. It can be a month, a week or even just a few hours before - just ensure that it's logged before the event starts. www.stem.org.uk

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