

Secondary Activity Examples

Please note: *If you are running an event that needs multiple volunteers, we recommend using multiple routes of recruitment to ensure you can fill your opportunity. As well as requesting STEM Ambassadors, you could also reach out to your local career hub, school alumni, or parents to support.*

Careers Talk

Activity title: 30 min session: Career Talk + Q&A

Description: We would like to show our Year 10 students a range of careers, industries, and pathways to broaden their aspirations. Over the Spring term, we will be hosting a range of careers talks on Monday lunchtimes (12:30-13:00) that interested pupils can sign up to. Each volunteer will be asked to speak about their career journey for around 15 minutes, leaving the remaining 15 minutes for questions. We ran this programme last year and the pupils loved it, so we are keen to find volunteers again for this cohort. It would be useful if we could meet virtually in advance to discuss your content and confirm arrangements.

STEM classroom activity

Activity title: Support our learning on Sustainability

Description: Year 9 are currently learning about climate change and how we need to change the way that we live in order to combat this. We are looking for a STEM Ambassador who works in any field to visit our school and discuss how their company/industry is making changes to become more sustainable. We would also like the students to take part in an activity linked to your talk, which we can help develop so that it also supports their curriculum learning. For example, we could look at different materials used in construction and their related carbon footprint, deciding which would be the best to use in different circumstances. Let's meet beforehand to discuss how best to approach this. There are lots of resources available that we are familiar with that could be useful in developing this session.

Judging a Competition/Challenge

Activity title: Guest judges wanted for Robotics competition

Description: Our school's robotics club has split into teams to build a robot and we now need to crown the winner! The teams have been given a set of tasks that the



robot must complete, including a race, climbing stairs, and carrying an object from one place to another. The teams were all given a budget with which to 'purchase' their materials, so the robots are very different, depending on how stingy they were feeling. We have prizes for the best-looking robot, the fastest, and the most efficient. We would love to have a guest judge (you don't need to work in robotics) to come and look at the entries and pick the overall winner based on a set of criteria we provide. School staff and older students will be around to help with the judging. It is set to be a really fun afternoon (13:00 - 15:00) to round-up a term of hard work and celebrate the students' achievements.

STEM Workshop

Activity title: Set challenge & judge entries (Year 8)

Description: Year 8 has an off-timetable afternoon to celebrate our science week. We are looking for a STEM Ambassador to come into school and provide an activity or challenge that they can do in our sports hall. We think that something like a Dragon's Den-style challenge that encourages them to be innovative and business-minded would work well as lots of the students have shown an interest in D&T. We realise that this is a big ask so we would be more than happy to work with you to design this challenge, based on your STEM experience and knowledge, and the resources that we have at school. All of the class teachers will be on hand during the day to help with managing the students' behaviour and engagement. If you would like to discuss any ideas you have, please do get in touch.

STEM Club

Activity title: Mentor a robotics team (no experience necessary)

Description: We are looking for volunteer mentors for our 3 robotics teams that are entering a robotics competition this year. The girls have split into 3 teams, so ideally, we would like 3 mentors. The club happens from 15:00-16:00 every Wednesday but we are not expecting our mentors to attend every week. If you can spare an hour 1 Wednesday each month for December, January, and February, that would be amazing! The mentoring support is to help the girls solve a number of building and coding challenges. We would love them to have the chance to work with a mentor from industry who can give them some careers experiences as well as supporting them in the competition. The club has teachers on hand to help the girls with tricky coding bits, so you don't need to be an expert to help!



Careers Fairs

Please note: most STEM Ambassadors volunteer as individuals and may not have access to physical materials for their stalls.

Secondary

Activity Title: Share your job at our secondary careers fair

Description: Year 10 are spending this week finding out more about the different career paths they could follow after school. We are looking for STEM Ambassadors from different industries to come and chat to our students about their jobs. The students will have been prepped with some questions to ask our visitors and have the opportunity to go around to the different tables during the hour-long session to chat to you all and find out about what you do now. The aim of the fair is to increase awareness of different jobs available to them in the future, so we're open to anyone! We have also been discussing the different academic options post-16 (A Levels, apprenticeships, T Levels etc.) so if you can give any insight into the different career paths in your field, that would be really helpful. You do not need to bring anything other than yourself and some enthusiasm! Refreshments will be provided, and we would be more than happy to chat to you in advance.

FE

Activity Title: Share your job at our next steps careers fair

Description: Our 16 - 19-year-old students are keen to meet a variety of employers and education providers to find out more about the different career paths they could follow. We are looking for STEM Ambassadors from different industries to come and chat to our students about their personal career journey, possible career pathways (e.g., university, apprenticeships etc.) and current opportunities within their industry/company. The event will run from 17:30 - 19:30. It would be great if you could stay for the duration, but we understand if this is not possible. Refreshments will be provided, and we would be more than happy to chat to you in advance.

Speed Networking

Activity title: Speed Networking: 5-minute chats with groups of students

Description: To celebrate careers week, we are inviting professionals from a variety of industries to join us for a lunchtime (12:30 - 13:30) speed networking event. Our



Year 9 (13 - 14-year-old) students will be put into groups of 4 and will go around to each volunteer and ask them questions about their job and industry. We will have discussed suitable questions with the students in advance, but feel free to allow the conversation to follow the students' interest. We will send you these questions in advance just so that you can have an idea of what we have talked about, but there is no real need to prepare.

Mock Interviews

Activity title: Mock interviews: pre-prepared questions

Description: As part of aspirations week, we are looking at preparing for the future. The students have already taken part in a CV writing workshop and are now working on interview skills. We would like for 6 STEM Ambassadors to come into the school and put their skills to the test! They are applying for a fictional job, and you are the hiring manager. We will give you a set of pre-prepared questions (e.g., "Tell me about a time when you had to overcome a challenge") which the students should have answers to. Each interview will be 10 minutes long, with a couple of minutes at the end for feedback. We will also provide a comment sheet that students can refer to in later weeks. The interviews will last all morning (9:30 - 11:30) but there will be plenty of opportunities for breaks and to meet your fellow interviewers.

Project/Award Mentoring

Activity title: Be a STEM mentor for one of our students

Description: One of our students is completing their Gold Crest Award to help with their university application. This project involves doing research into a particular topic over 70 hours and is seen very favourably by top universities. Mentors play an important role in CREST projects by offering their experience, knowledge, and enthusiasm to help inspire students. Our student is focusing her project on preparing buildings in the Middle East for natural disasters, following the recent events in Turkey and Syria. As a mentor, you would not need to necessarily know about earthquake-proofing buildings, or structural engineering, more support the student on how to go about her research and encourage her interest. We would like to have an initial meeting with you to make sure we're all on the same page. If you want to find out more about being a mentor, we've found this link really useful in the past when chatting to volunteers:

<https://help.crestawards.org/portal/en/kb/articles/guidance-on-being-a-mentor> This mentoring can be online so is flexible as we understand you are very busy!



Employability Support

Title: Help at our CV review drop-in session

Description: A lot of our students are applying for Summer jobs at the moment, so we are going to host a drop-in session for our Year 12s and 13s (16 - 19 year olds) to help them with their CVs. Our careers lead will be running the session, but it would be great to have someone with industry experience on hand to give another point of view. We are running the drop-in from 11:00 - 13:00 to give students plenty of time to fit it in around lessons. We have given the students a 'Guide to a good CV' which we can send to you too so that you know what we are ideally looking for. You do not need to prepare anything in advance!

Workplace Awareness

Title: Support students' workplace awareness

Description: We're looking to promote the workplace awareness of our Year 10 students. Could you give a live/recorded tour of your workplace? Could you give an in-person/online talk about the workplaces you have experienced? Or could you host a group of students for a workplace tour (supported by a member of teaching staff)?

The key thing is giving the students the opportunity to understand the workplace in action and ideally give them the chance to meet some people that work in STEM related jobs. We can be flexible with the timings of this between March and July. If you have a different idea, please let us know.

Title: Set a work-based challenge

Description: We'd like to set a work-related challenge for our Year 10 students. Could you introduce your industry and job role and then set the group a challenge linked to your industry (either in-person or virtually), and then join again at a later stage to see how they've progressed? We can help with challenge ideas as we know it can be tough to come up with something! We are open to hearing from a wide range of industries and roles. If you have a different idea, please let us know.

