

# The UK's STEM Learning and STEM Ambassador Programmes

## STEM Learning

Founded in 2002, STEM Learning is the largest provider of STEM education and careers support in the UK. It reaches directly into every UK secondary school and over 80% of primary schools. It is funded by revenue from the provision of its professional development and Government grants.

In 2019 it employed 125 people with a turnover of GPD25M; cost of sales GPD18M and GPD10M in administration expenses.

With headquarters at York University, it creates and delivers the following services from 17 centres across the UK.

- Continuous professional development courses for STEM teachers and educational leaders.
- STEM resources to support lesson planning and STEM Club activities.
- Coordination and training of a network of volunteer [STEM Ambassadors](#) to contextualise learning and raise career aspirations in young people.

## The STEM Ambassador Programme

The UK's STEM Ambassador programme brings together professionals working in STEM fields into schools and educational settings to share their knowledge, experiences, and passion for STEM subjects. These STEM Ambassadors engage with students, deliver interactive workshops, provide career guidance, and help dispel common misconceptions about STEM fields.

They are supported by STEM Learning's network of 17 STEM Ambassador Hubs which currently coordinate over 25,000 STEM Ambassador volunteers representing some 7,000 organisations. It is supported by UKRI, the national funding agency investing in science and research across the whole of the UK.

STEM Learning's support for its STEM Ambassadors includes insurance, online training programmes; vetting for suitability; access to an extensive library of resources; an app which matches them with schools and records their activity; and recognition-of-achievement awards.

Companies are encouraged to provide Ambassadors from within their ranks. STEM Learning's [Employer Handbook](#) provides case studies and is a good introduction to the mutual benefits to both staff and companies through participation in the programme.

## The UK's Institution of Mechanical Engineers STEM Ambassador Programme

At the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, education and skills is a policy priority. Education outreach is considered crucial to inform and inspire young people, as well as to enable our members to build their skillset, local networks and a talent pipeline for their own businesses.

The IMechE actively encourages its engineers to get involved in STEM outreach and supports them with free training, educational resources and guidance through their comprehensive [STEM Outreach programme](#). They have trained around 10,000 STEM Ambassadors and their STEM Ambassador training plan for the remainder of 2023 is shown overleaf.

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- 28<sup>th</sup> Feb – Make 2023 Your Year of STEM. ONLINE 6-7pm
- **29<sup>th</sup> March – Teacher's Top Tips (Primary) ONLINE 6-7pm**
- 25<sup>th</sup> April – STEM Ambassador Training Workshop. IN PERSON IMECHE HQ 1030-4pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> May – Teacher's Top Tips (Secondary). ONLINE 6-7pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> June – Providing advice on the routes into Engineering. ONLINE 6-7pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> July - Inclusion at the core of STEM Outreach. ONLINE 6-7pm.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Sept - STEM Ambassador Training Workshop. IN PERSON Manchester 1030-4pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Oct – STEM Outreach beyond the classroom. ONLINE 6-7pm.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Nov – Inspire young people with engaging STEM. ONLINE 6-7pm

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