

Contract Extension

Kent & Medway STEM is pleased to confirm that we have agreed new arrangements with STEMNET, with effect from 1 July 2011, to manage the Schools STEM Advisory Network and STEM Ambassadors Programme in the Kent and Medway region.

We will keep schools in Kent and Medway informed about high-quality activities they can access to enrich and enhance the STEM curriculum and enable them to use a range of STEM Ambassadors so that teachers can incorporate into their teaching exemplary links to the world of work.

Solar Car Challenge



Kent & Medway STEM and University of Kent collaborated on a Royal Academic of Engineering award under the National HE STEM Programme to run Solar Car Challenge. Teachers and Ambassadors were invited to attend a twilight session in April. The event was

a short project for school teams of 13 and 14 years olds during the summer term. Each school team was provided with a free Solar car construction kit and STEM ambassadors who visited their teams to guide them to complete the activities.

The final took place at the University of Kent involving 12 teams from 5 schools. It was a great success. The activity helped to expand the pupils' scientific knowledge as well as to help them to learn about renewable energy concepts.

The day was fun for young engineers of the future. Each team had customised and adapted their model to make it unique in both style and appearance.

STEM Networking

STEMNET has launched an exciting new facility for Ambassadors and Schools:

<http://networking.stemnet.org.uk>

Share your experiences as a STEM Ambassador with other Ambassadors and schools by uploading a blog post to STEMNetworking

Ambassadors can:

- create a profile
- update blogs to showcase exciting school visits and activities
- add and download activity ideas and resources
- view and respond to the latest school requests

All you need to do is log on to your STEM Ambassadors record at:

<https://db.stemnet.org.uk> and update your Data Protection page to 'opt in to STEMNetworking' and then log out of your record.

If you then go to:

<http://networking.stemnet.org.uk>, you can login using your usual login details and start taking advantage of all the benefits of STEMNetworking.

To make your STEMNetworking profile public simply click the 'make my profile public' link at the top of your STEMNetworking profile page.

Ambassadors Update - July 2011

STEM Conference

The 2011 STEM Conference took place on 10th June at Canterbury Christ Church University.

Science, technology and maths teachers from both Primary and Secondary schools were invited from across the county along with Ambassadors.

STEM ambassadors participated with no charge. The day began with keynote address by Keith Gibbs and ended with an inspiring session by Sue Martin. There were also a number of workshops promoting STEM activities for both Primary and Secondary education.



More than 90 people attended in total, and evaluations showed that more 90% of those who attended rated the experiences as very good.

All delegates took home a goodie bag filled with items to enhance STEM activities and all teachers received a token for £40.00 to spend on equipment or resources of their choice.

STEM Ambassadors on the day requested that we place them in special interest groups as well as pairing people up with a buddy system. If you would like to support another ambassador, or to register as part of a special interest group, please contact us. Together we can make a difference!

Look out for STEM 2012 Conference which will be held in July 2012, sign up early for reduced rates!

Supersonic Challenge

Inspired by the Bloodhound supersonic car project to build the world's fastest land vehicle, the King's School, Canterbury, launched a project for School pupils to design and make a super-speedy car.



The car is powered by only a model aircraft Electric Ducted Fan and high-technology Lithium Polymer Batteries.

Teachers and Ambassadors attended CPD sessions at Kings school to plan, design and make the cars. The final competition was held at The King's School on Tuesday 5th July 2011.

Kent and Medway would like to take this opportunity to thank all the STEM Ambassadors who were involved in supporting these successful events. Both Solar Car Challenge and Supersonic Challenge were a great success and will now be annual events.

If you are interested to get involved and support schools the next Solar Car Challenge or Supersonic Challenge please let us know.



Volunteering Opportunities

When	Where	What	Details
28/09/2011 - 09:50 - 10:40 30/09/2011 - 11:00 - 11:50 04/10/2011 - 14:30 - 15:20 07/10/2011 - 09:50 - 10:40	Rainham Mark Grammar School	Career talk	Presentation/talk to 30 students about your job/career
11/10/2011	Angel Centre. Canterbury and Medway Schools	West Kent Skills Festivals	The event will target thousands of students who will be given the opportunity to engage with a multitude of employers and exhibitors

Strong background in Engineering Engineer - Needed

A UK-based TV company is looking for engineers to front up a new series! They must understand how things are built/how they work - from houses to machinery and everything in between. So it could be a mechanical engineer, a structural engineer, a design engineer, a civil engineer, etc. The presenters won't necessarily have to build/make something themselves, but they have to have an understanding of - and interest in - the process. And they have to have an engaging and charismatic personality.

So if you would like Claire to forward your details to the production company please email her your CV and a recent photo as soon as possible to: claire@findaTVexpert.com. The production company will then go through all the CVs and contact the people who they think might have what it takes!

Ambassadors required to support for STEM Challenge 7 – The BT APP Challenge

STEM and BT, the Official Communication Services partner of the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics Games are challenging 11-14 year olds to design an app for London 2012: Everyone's Games. The app needs to provide useful information and be communicated and accessed in the best possible way to contribute to a great Games experience.

Please see: www.stemchallenges.net for more information.

Seven schools have registered from Kent and Medway region and STEM Ambassadors are needed to support these schools with this challenge in September. Support will involve visiting the school at least once at the beginning of the project and once at the end. STEM Ambassador Judges are also required for the final judging session which is 5th of October at Canterbury, 4:00 to 6:30.

Finally

A big thank you for all the work you do as STEM Ambassadors.

The Programme is continually cited by teachers, industry, scheme providers and government as one that makes a real and genuine difference.

There are now over 750 STEM Ambassadors in the Kent and Medway region. Over 90% of the schools have had an ambassador link in the last 2 years.

This is a clear reflection of the amazing difference you all make to young people's enthusiasm for STEM.

While we are delighted to have increased the number of Ambassadors across the county, our impact could be much greater.

Approximately 50% of volunteers who have registered as Ambassadors in the past year have yet to find an opportunity to share their enthusiasm and expertise.

If you are in this position, how about helping with an activity listed above?

Alternatively get in touch with us and we'll find you a gentle introduction to being an Ambassador.