2024 STEMPOINT GRANT IMPACT REPORT

STEMPOINT awards up to £5,000 a year to schools across the East of England to support STEM related projects.











Letter from the Project Lead





Elena Evryviades

Business Support Manager

For over three years, STEMPOINT Grants have been a catalyst for change, empowering schools, students, and educators in the East of England to bring STEM to life. These grants have ignited curiosity, expanded opportunities, and transformed classrooms—whether by enhancing existing STEM clubs or launching brand-new initiatives.

Recognising the need for inclusivity, we've expanded our grants to support home-schooled students, youth groups, SEND schools and Further Education (FE) institutions, ensuring that more young minds have the opportunity to engage with hands-on STEM learning. By funding innovative projects and deepening STEM understanding, we are not just supporting education—we are shaping the next generation of innovators, problem-solvers, and pioneers.



has been granted to support STEM projects over the past 3 years

students have directly benefited from hands-on STEM experiences

educational settings have been funded, including schools, FE institutions, Guides, SEND and home educators "In a time when schools are feeling the financial strain, it's been amazing to find organisations that believe in supporting educational initiatives through grants."

-Longina Potter Science Lead, Baddow Hall Junior

A STEMPOINT Grant was awarded to the following educational settings:



Clore Shalom SchoolSt Teresa's Catholic SchoolElton C of E Primary SchoolRavenswood Community Primary SchoolSt Vincent de Paul RC School,
St. Pancras Catholic Primary SchoolFlamstead EndGreat Ashby Guides Leventhorpe
Highfield SchoolHeathwood Lower SchoolBaddow Hall Junior SchoolSpellbrook Primary SchoolThe Kingsbrook SchoolHemel Hempstead SchoolChrist Church C of E (VA) Infant and Primary School

















Develop new skills



Ignite

curiosity

Elton Primary School



Green Power Formula Goblin Challenge



About the project...

Together with STEM ambassadors from Perkins, we ran an after-school project to build a Goblin Kit Car over 15 weeks of the spring/summer term 2024. Once built, a team of children competed at Greenpower race days. We completed the build and successfully made our vehicle race worthy. The STEM Ambassadors play a pivotal role in inspiring and mentoring the students. Their dedication and enthusiasm contribute significantly to making the learning experience enjoyable and meaningful for the pupils.





"How this project is developing within the school, shows the power of hands-on STEM education in developing skills, values and community engagement amongst young people"

-Andrew Grant

Feedback...

The children have absolutely loved designing and building the karts and we look forward to making the bodywork and the test driving. They have developed so many skills throughout the project and have learned so much about green-power and sustainable energy.

Andrew Grant, Year 6 Teacher, Elton Primary School.

Our STEM club has used the excitement of motorsport to inspire young people to excel in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). -Andrew Grant

Hemel Hempstead STEMPOINT School

6th Form Rocketry Club



To add even more value to the Rocket Design Challenge, a STEM Ambassador visited to guide the students on how to effectively organise projects and set clear, achievable goals. They shared valuable insights on what the teams could do differently in the future to ensure smoother project management and more focused outcomes.



One of the highlights of Junior STEM Week was the Rocket Design Challenge, where teams of students took on the exciting task of designing and building rockets from scratch! Using grant money (carefully managed through the school for budget purposes), they purchased all the necessary components and got straight to work. Students competed in UKROC (youth rocketry competition); designed, tested and built everything themselves.

As they built and tested their rockets, the teams showed incredible creativity and problemsolving skills by making adjustments and improvements to their designs along the way. It was amazing to see their enthusiasm as they experimented, learned from each test, and refined their rockets to achieve better results. This hands-on experience gave them a real taste of the engineering design process!

Daryl Cuthbert - Lead



"Students built the rockets with materials purchased with the STEMPOINT grant money and performed very well. The best year we have had in terms of rocket success."

Daryl Cuthbert - Lead

Leventhorpe Year 12 - F1 in Schools Project



An exciting opportunity saw students from Leventhorpe develop and race a model car for the F1 in School STEM Competition.

The challenge inspired students to dive into a range of skills that extended far beyond STEM! Through the challenge, they used IT to explore physics, aerodynamics, and design while also tackling aspects of manufacturing, branding, graphics, and securing sponsorship.

Students stepped up as leaders, learning teamwork and project management while also exploring marketing, media skills, and financial strategy within the world of science. It was incredible to see them apply all these concepts in a practical, imaginative, and competitive way, making the entire experience both thrilling and educational.

The students from both Year 12 and Year 13 entered in the Regional Heat Competition in February 2025 and have continued to raise funds and sponsorship with the intent to submit entries again next academic year. All students have described the event as incredibly valuable in terms of the soft skills they have developed.

Andrea Durak Teacher of Science

Very satisfied with STEMPOINT grant process

STEMPOINT funding was used to purchase 5 of the F1 School kits









STEMPOINT

Baddow Hall Junior STEM Week



240

students benefited from our grant



To inspire the Junior STEM Week

To spark curiosity and excitement during the Juniors STEM Week, Baddow Hall Junior brought together 240 enthusiastic pupils for a week filled with a variety of fun and hands-on activities that went beyond the usual classroom learning! From informative sessions to practical experiments, they had it all.

Their lineup included 3 STEM Ambassadors and teacher-led activities that brought a new level of excitement to the event.

In a time when schools are feeling the financial strain, it's been amazing to find organisations that believe in supporting educational initiatives through grants. This allowed us to offer an engaging STEM experience that went above and beyond the curriculum. Huge thanks to everyone who helped make this possible! *Longina Potter*

Science Lead



Spellbrook Primary School Farming of the future

Our project was conducted as a part of British Science Week. The teachers planned the week using ideas from the British Science week theme, 'Time'. We focused on farming and the use of technology and how that will change farming in the future, as well as learning about the timeline of one specific animal, a hen. The children have been fascinated with observing the life cycle of hen chicks. EYFS and KS1 have loved watching the eggs as they have cracked and opened and have seen the chicks from their first minutes of life into their first few days. The cute little chicks have captured everyone's hearts.

The children also had a close-up encounter with a local tractor. They were fascinated with the technology, the engineering and the different tasks the tractor can be used for. The younger ones were most impressed by the size of the wheels. The children also learned about a local farm and some of the produce that is grown. *Mrs. Romy-Georgia McDonald*

Objectives and impact of the Project



St Theresa's **Catholic School**



The Great Garden Project

We're excited to give the children access to a nature-focused area where they can explore how to care for the planet and create a biodiverse environment that supports local wildlife. This space will not only encourage hands-on learning but also inspire a sense of responsibility and environmental stewardship which includes:

A sensory area where children can engage their senses while maintaining and caring for the space. Wildlife-friendly zones to support birds, hedgehogs, and other local species, fostering an understanding of ecosystems.

Gardening opportunities where children can experience the joy of growing plants and food, helping them appreciate the value of sustainable produce.

A dedicated gardening club to allow students to take ownership, nurture their green thumbs, and learn lifelong skills. This immersive and interactive space will provide endless opportunities for discovery, creativity, and care for the environment!



"Thank you! This has been a great experience and the children will continue to gain lots from this!" Mrs. Sarah Heath (teacher)

To create a garden area that supports biodiversity, linking to science and our looking after the micro habitants as well as larger animals, and growing our own plants, herbs and food for sustainability.







5 Bird boxes have been created and a bird bath bird feeding stations have been assembled.

All 230 children will benefit from using the area.

The Kingsbrook School



Increasing Science Engagement Among KS3 Students



About the project...

This project was created to ignite a passion for science among students while deepening their understanding of the scientific process. It aimed to equip them with essential science skills, such as asking thoughtful questions, making accurate observations, and confidently using calibrated instruments. Beyond building technical abilities, the project also encouraged active participation and engagement in science, empowering students to explore, experiment, and develop a lifelong curiosity about the world around them.





"This experience not only strengthened their scientific skills but also opened their minds to the vast opportunities available in the world of STEM." *Collette McKenzie-Thorney*

Students had the incredible opportunity to complete a CREST Award, dedicating over 11 hours to hands-on scientific work. Throughout the process, they enhanced their questioning and critical thinking skills while gaining confidence in using lab instruments such as balances and measuring cylinders, significantly improving their practical lab abilities. In addition to their project work, students engaged in discussions about careers in STEM, where three inspiring STEM Ambassadors shared insights about their professions.

Collette McKenzie-Thorney Science teacher, Specialist Curriculum leader of Science

St. Pancras Primary School

Science Ambassadors Club



of the school benefited from our grant



"I love science"



"I am going to be a scientist when I am older" Our aim is to raise the profile of science within the school and empower children to take the lead in shaping their own science experiences. By providing opportunities for students to engage deeply with science, they are not only developing a passion for discovery but also gaining the confidence to steer future initiatives.

To further embed a culture of science within the school, KS1 and KS2 Science Ambassadors have been established to promote enthusiasm and engagement with science across all year groups. These ambassadors have taken on leadership roles by organising a breaktime science club with a new theme each week, such as exploring the properties of magnets.

In addition, the ambassadors have created and maintained a science board in a corridor, which they regularly update with engaging resources from Exploring. One popular feature is the "Zoom In, Zoom Out" activity, where children use post-it notes to guess what an object might be from a close-up image, fostering critical thinking and observation skills.

To further motivate and reward scientific curiosity, the ambassadors have also introduced the "Scientist of the Week" initiative. This weekly recognition celebrates a student who demonstrates great scientific thinking either during the break-time club or through contributions to the science board. The winner is awarded a certificate and 5 house points, reinforcing positive engagement with science and inspiring others to get involved.

Emma Jones, KS2 teacher & science lead



Christ Church Cofe STEMPOINT



School Pond

Objectives of the Project

To enhance biodiversity within the school environment, aligning with our Eco Schools commitments, we aim to create a diverse habitat that offers children a hands-on opportunity to explore and engage with nature. This space will directly support their learning under the Living Things and Their Habitats topic, encouraging curiosity and a deeper understanding of the natural world. Jo Whitmore - KS2 Leader, Acting Assistant Head and Science subject lead



pupils have benefited from the STEMPOINT Grant



"We were able to purchase the pond and filter system thanks to the STEMPOINT Grant"





"All 356 children will benefit from using the area."



"Thank you for your support."

Heathwood Lower School



Mini STEM Projects



Objectives of the project...

As a school we decided on a number of mini projects which will enable the pupils of the school to benefit from a variety of different resources enabling them to enrich their STEM knowledge and understanding. Developed through the activities above.

1. Use STEM Ambassadors - Beat the Floods, Biology

- 2. Science Week
- 3. STEM Club CREST Awards
- 4. Involvement of SEND pupils
- 5. Gardening





"This initiative was especially designed to benefit pupils in our Speech and Language provision and our high number of SEND pupils, who thrive through hands-on, practical learning experiences." - *Keith Waterhouse*

For our upcoming Science Week, we arranged for a diverse range of STEM Ambassadors to engage with the children, either through inperson visits or online presentations. Our goal was to provide maximum exposure to different areas of STEM by bringing in a variety of experts.

The planned activities covered an exciting mix of topics, including farming, flooding, and beaches, along with interactive workshops on LEGO, robots, and aeroplanes. o further inspire the children, we promoted participation in the CREST Awards to deepen their understanding of STEM. We believed that by capturing their interest early, we could encourage a lasting passion for STEM that would continue throughout their educational journey. *Keith Waterhouse Teacher - Science & Technology Lead*



Ravenswood Community Primary School



STEM4Kids - CREST Awards, Sustainability & Eco Learning

Objectives of the Project

Our plans to incorporate sustainability learning and engage the local community have been an important focus. We have successfully fostered community participation and ensured whole school involvement through daily hen management, allowing students to engage in a hands-on sustainability project.

Pupil Premium children have been further enriched through participation in the STEM4Kids Club and CREST Awards, providing them with valuable opportunities to develop STEM skills and knowledge.

These initiatives have also addressed science enrichment and CAPITAL objectives, enhancing the school's overall STEM offering. Data collection will follow now that the hens have arrived and the STEM Club is fully underway, allowing us to track and assess the impact of this project. *Mrs. Justine Scales*

KS2 Teacher - Science, Eco-Committee & Sustainability Lead

The hens were sourced from Fresh start 4 Hens.







The whole school will benefit from the hen enclosure

Pupil premium children enriched through STEM4Kids club/CREST Awards.

Great Ashby Guides

STEM activities with Guides

The objective of our project was to inspire girls to get involved in STEM.

We're excited to be developing a STEM toolkit designed specifically for use with our Guide unit, with the goal of extending its impact across the entire Division. This versatile resource will provide hands-on activities, engaging challenges, and inspiring STEM content that can be easily adapted and used by other guiding units.

The girls had an exciting opportunity to explore STEM in a hands-on way by examining a skeleton! This interactive experience allowed them to deepen their understanding of anatomy and sparked curiosity about the human body. Engaging with the skeleton gave them a chance to ask questions, explore biological concepts, and see science come to life in an exciting and memorable way. *Karin Jane Hunter*



Inspire Girls to Get Involved in STEM!

Guides Leader







Thank You!



A heartfelt thank you to all our participating schools for providing invaluable feedback, which has allowed us to effectively track and measure the impact of our grant. Your insights have been instrumental in helping us understand how the funding has enhanced STEM opportunities and enriched learning experiences for the pupils. This feedback ensures that we can continue to refine and improve our initiatives, ultimately making a greater difference in the lives of young learners. Your collaboration and commitment are truly appreciated!

To find out more, please visit our website <u>www.stempoint.org.uk</u> or email the project lead team at grant@stempoint.org.uk