

“I now know that until you step through the doors of a company you can’t really understand what you are actually preparing young people for. The reality is that we are preparing our students for the workplace not for league table success – it is imperative that staff are therefore in tune with the reality of the workplace and understand the working environment, the demands and the opportunities”

Marie Jobson
Churchill Community College
STEM Insight participant 2016

STEM Insight

Careers awareness programme for teachers

STEM Learning

Need to improve careers guidance

- Skills gap – too few young people pursuing STEM careers
- Reforming vocational education and improving careers guidance
- Careers guidance inadequate
- Technical skills and vocational routes undervalued
- Young people need to be informed and inspired about:
 - breadth of opportunities made available through STEM
 - choice of vocational paths as well as academic
- Engine of social mobility

Role of teachers

- After parents, teachers are the most important influencers on students' careers choices
- But 82% feel they lack the necessary knowledge to offer careers advice
- Many lack experience of industry and have limited knowledge of STEM career opportunities or vocational routes
- Developing and inspiring teachers to bring careers alive in the classroom will have a powerful impact on large numbers of students

STEM Insight

- Immersive experience in industry / university:
 - Insight into Industry
 - Insight into University
- Professional development support
- Heavily subsidised scheme
- Flexible programme

“Before the programme I didn’t feel I had sufficient knowledge of STEM careers to talk with confidence. Now I am equipped with up-to-date knowledge, real examples and experiences, as well as strong industry links that I can use to benefit the whole school. I believe this makes me a more effective and inspiring teacher. This was a really valuable experience with long-term benefits”

Alice Kupara
Thomas Deacon Academy
STEM Insight participant 2016

Impact on teachers

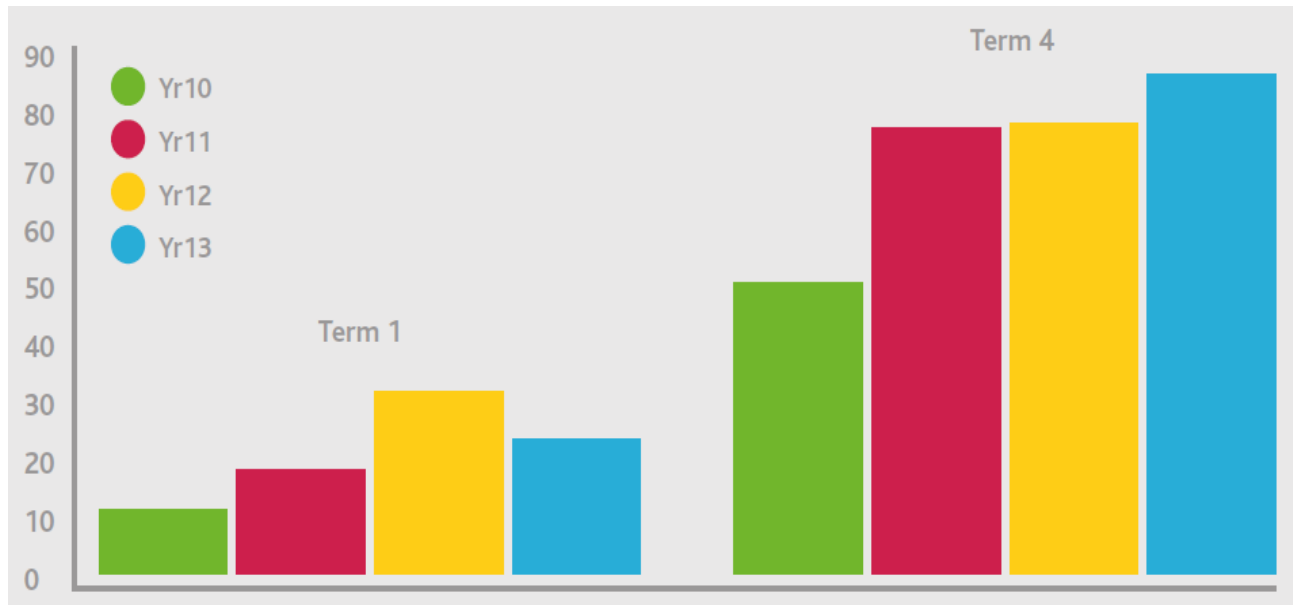
- ‘Professionally life-changing’
- Broadens scope of role
- Much greater awareness of STEM careers and skills required
- Much greater awareness of vocational routes and value
- Motivated to transform careers provision in school
- Equipped to embed careers into the curriculum and enrich subject teaching
- Lasting relationship with host employer or university

Impact on students

- Better informed about broad range of STEM career opportunities
- More aware of the vocational routes into employment and their value
- More inspired – eyes opened to possible futures
- Raises aspirations
- More engagement opportunities with industry
- Increased participation in STEM subjects
- Successful career choices

Impact on students

Percentage of students aware of STEM opportunities
pre and post-placement:



*Based on the evaluation of one participant's experience in their school

Impact on schools and colleges

- Efficient and cost-effective way of embedding careers into the curriculum
- Builds strong partnerships with industry and HE
- Inspired teachers with reinvigorated sense of purpose
- Students better informed about career opportunities and routes
- Starts bridging the gap between the focus on academic qualifications and new technical routes

“I’ve now built a network of contacts and links into industry with resulting opportunities that students otherwise would not be exposed to...”

“Apprenticeships are now seen as a real opportunity”

Rose Russell
Ursuline Academy, Ilford
STEM Insight past participant

Further information

www.stem.org.uk/stem-insight