



ENTHUSE Partnerships: 2020

ENTHUSE Partnerships are intensive two-year programmes that enable schools to raise aspiration and achievement in STEM by collaborating and investing in teaching quality, working with STEM Learning and STEM employers.

In 2020, schools faced unprecedented challenges due to Covid disruption. ENTHUSE Partnership schools were supported throughout with remote activities, including curriculum-matched remote lessons, remote professional development sessions (alongside existing online CPD), and online STEM Ambassador and enrichment activities. STEM Learning continues to work with these schools to help embed changes in practice, so ensuring impacts are sustained.

During 2020, 144 schools worked together and with STEM Learning to complete 25 partnerships with a strong focus on supporting disadvantaged and under-represented young people, alongside raising awareness of careers in STEM and emerging technologies.

Evaluation shows this investment in teachers and teaching has clear benefits on the quality of teaching and STEM experience for young people in participating schools, with impacts including:

- **Improved attainment in STEM subjects:** 41% of girls and 53% of boys showed improved attainment compared to the beginning of the partnership.
- **More students exceeding age-related expectations in STEM subjects:** At the start of the partnerships, teachers reported 13% of girls and 10% of boys were exceeding age-related expectations. After 1 year, 18% of girls and 31% of boys were exceeding these expectations. By the end of the partnership, this rose again to 44% of girls and 52% of boys.
- **Narrowing the gap for disadvantaged students:** after their schools participated in the Partnership for two years, 90% of pupil premium students met age-related expectations or above in STEM, compared to 80% at the start.
- **Improved self-efficacy:** 36% of girls and 42% of boys now see themselves as the sort of person that could have a career in STEM, compared to 30% of girls and 37% of boys at the beginning of the partnership.
- **Higher quality careers teaching:** Teachers across participating schools report increased confidence in embedding careers information into teaching and using real world contexts.
- **More STEM enrichment opportunities:** Teachers are more aware of enrichment opportunities provided by local employers and feel they can work more effectively with employers to provide enrichment opportunities.

STEM Learning, May 2021