



Ein cyf/Our ref WQ87069

James Evans MS
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31 January 2023

Dear James,

Thank you for your Written Question of 17 January 2023 asking which national STEM programmes receive Welsh Government funding.

The Welsh Government has provided almost £1.5 million in grant funding this financial year to support the delivery of seven valuable STEM initiatives across Wales.

Details of the STEM initiatives we are supporting are as follows:

- *Techniquiest and Xplore!*
These encompass outreach programmes that involve visits to primary and secondary schools and direct interaction with learners, whilst also facilitating visits and workshops at their individual Science Centres. Both focus on developing and supporting a love of science early in the learner journey and ongoing engagement with science.
- *Engineering Education Scheme Wales*
This is a non-profit, educational charity which runs programmes and activities across primary and secondary schools in Wales to inspire and motivate young people to choose careers in STEM, with a particular focus on engineering.
- *Institute of Physics*
The programme provides bespoke support to teachers, particularly those who are non-specialists, newly qualified or working in isolation. It equips those teachers with a range of teaching approaches, confidence in their teaching and enthusiasm for the subject of physics.

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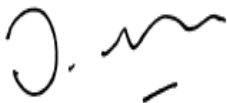
Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

- *Technocamps*
This delivers computer coding workshops to pupils and teachers in every secondary school in Wales, giving learners opportunities to develop their computational thinking and coding skills with an aim of inspiring them to take computer science at GCSE and beyond.
- *Further Maths Support Programme*
This aims to widen access to Further Mathematics GCSE AS/A2 level in Wales, by strengthening existing provision for Further Mathematics through building delivery capacity in each consortium in Wales.
- *Physics Mentoring Programme*
This is aimed at improving the gender balance in science subjects as well as improving post-16 participation in physics. Undergraduate and postgraduate students in physics-related degrees act as mentors to learners in secondary schools to promote the aspirations and opportunities that studying physics at GCSE, A-Level and further, may present to them.
- *Cracking the Code*
This includes providing small grants to schools/hubs via regional consortia to work with their clusters of schools to support progression and transition from primary to secondary school in developing digital and coding skills.

These initiatives in both primary and secondary schools across Wales, have the primary aims of supporting and developing STEM enrichment activities, narrowing the attainment gap and encouraging the take up of particular STEM subjects at both GCSE and A-Level.

Yours sincerely,



Jeremy Miles AS/MS

Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg

Minister for Education and Welsh Language