

First® Lego® League

First® Lego® League introduces robotics to children ages 4-16 through fun, exciting hands-on learning and culminates in either a tournament or festival to celebrate their achievements. Students gain real-world problem solving experiences through a guided, global robotics programme. Read about the most recent tournament, aimed at UKS2-KS4 here:

<https://thestemhub.org.uk/news/news-article/a-superpowered-stem-challenge-for-south-east-schools>

There are more festivals for KS1-LKS2 students to follow in Chatham and Canterbury in June. If you are interested check out <https://education.theiet.org/first-lego-league-programmes/explore/>

CREST Awards

The CREST Awards is a scheme that inspires young people (5-19) to think and act like scientists and engineers. The CREST Awards provide teachers with simple and adaptable activities aligned to the national curriculum. There are activities and project ideas for a range of ages, group size and abilities. From off-the-shelf, one-hour long challenges through to large-scale, student-led projects of over 70 hours work or more, with Silver CREST awards increasing GCSE attainment and STEM subject selection at AS Level, particularly for disadvantaged students

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b072a8af79392cac386efed/t/5b7d2da76d2a73947ed55158/1534930372797/CREST-Report.pdf>

CREST can be done by anyone, giving young people the chance to choose their own subject and methodology when completing their hands-on investigation. All resources are FREE on the [Crest Awards Website](#)

Primary Engineer Leaders Award Competition

Primary Engineers Leaders Award, asks the question; "If you were an engineer, what would you do?". The competition encourages pupils from the ages of 3-19 across the UK to identify problems in the world around them and come up with creative solutions for them, embedding through the whole process that creative problem solving is a key part of being an engineer.

Register to access the lesson plans, pupil log books, guides, curriculum mapping and entry submission information. **Once registered you can access the live online engineer interview schedule to book an engineer for your class.**

Entries to this year's competition are accepted up to 22nd March 2023. Every pupil who takes part receives a graded certificate from a real life engineer! Register at www.leadersaward.com

Networking, Training and Support Opportunities for Teachers

Our local Science Learning Partnership (SLP) has science CPD opportunities, both face to face and online, for both Primary and Secondary staff in Kent schools.

There are CPD opportunities in a variety areas including raising attainment, Deep Dives, and Subject Knowledge Enhancement, as well as networking meetings for Science Leads and Heads of Department. Some of these CPD sessions are FREE and some have bursaries attached to make them more affordable, or you can find out about how a subscription package could work for your school.

Find out more about all the CPD on offer and even more enrichment opportunities specifically for Kent and the South East at thestemhub.org.uk

Secondary Opportunities - <https://thestemhub.org.uk/docs/slp/kent-medway-slp-secondary-brochure-2023-spring-term.pdf>

Primary Opportunities - <https://thestemhub.org.uk/docs/slp/kent-medway-slp-primary-brochure-2023-spring-term.pdf>

Fully Subsidised Physics CPD

Interested in fully subsidised physics CPD for your whole science department? The Stimulating Physics Network (SPN) is a programme that offers your teachers, technicians, and support staff long-term specialist bespoke physics CPD delivered face-to-face in your own school.

You will work with specialist school-based physics coaches to improve attainment and participation in physics as well as equipping your staff with current subject knowledge and skills to enable them to re-invigorate physics teaching and learning. **Schools with no physics specialist staff, new to physics teachers, ECTs, and technicians who want support, and to expand their knowledge base would really benefit from the SPN programme.**

The SPN is supported by the DfE and therefore is FREE for all maintained schools. If you would like to find out more, please contact Kyla Winter at k.winter510@canterbury.ac.uk