

## Engineer the Future FAQs

We've put together some answers to key questions about Engineer the Future. If you need further information or advice, email us at [education@ukesf.org](mailto:education@ukesf.org)

### *Why should we take part?*

Project based work is engaging for all students and can have the biggest positive impact on those who identify less strongly with the subject originally. Sharing their projects has many benefits to students and allows teachers to raise the profile of their subject and engage the wider community. Electronics is an important industry in the UK and projects like this one help young people to picture themselves as being suited to a career in STEM, as well as building essential skills.

### *How do I enter my school to take part?*

This is a pilot programme and currently only open by invitation. If your school is eligible, you will receive an email with information about taking part. If your school has not received an email but you are interested in taking part, please complete the expression of interest form or get in touch on [education@ukesf.org](mailto:education@ukesf.org).

### *How much does it cost to take part?*

Engineer the Future is completely free and each school is entitled to receive a £400 bursary to help cover any costs associated with the project.

### *When is the closing date?*

Please let us know you'll be taking part as soon as possible. Students can work on their projects at any point in the Autumn and Spring terms. We suggest that they are finished with their projects by the Easter break, ready to share in the Summer term.

### *How many students can take part?*

We encourage schools to offer this opportunity to as many of your Year 8 students as possible. This may be different for different schools and may include every student, specific classes or a smaller group, such as a lunchtime or after-school club. One team from each school can attend the UKESF celebration event.

### *How many students should be in a team?*

That's up to you but we suggest no more than 6 students in each group, to ensure everyone has plenty of opportunities to contribute.

### *What adjustments can be made for students with additional needs?*

As their teacher, you are best placed to make those decisions. You could consider assigning specific roles within groups, scaffolding projects, or suggesting changes to

how teams present their work. If you would like any support with this or would find additional resources helpful, please do get in touch.

*How much time will the projects take?*

You can give students as much time as you like to work on their projects. Some schools may spend several hours of class time over a number of weeks or run the programme as a regular club, while others may choose to use a more intensive period, such as British Science Week.

*Does every group have to come up with a different project?*

We know that students tend to be more engaged when they feel they have agency over their work, so we encourage teachers to allow groups to make some decisions themselves. For some schools, this may be as simple as groups choosing which equipment they will use from the selection provided or choosing between two challenges while others may be comfortable with groups each choosing their own projects.

*What happens when we share the students' project ideas with UKESF?*

Our team will read all of the project ideas and give feedback to every group. We'll make sure that there is a significant Electronics component and help groups to think through how they can achieve their aims.

*How can our school spend the £400 bursary?*

The bursary can be used for any costs associated with taking part, including buying equipment and contributing to staff training or cover costs.

*How should the teams present their projects?*

This is a great opportunity for students to take the lead! Students are expected to be able to talk about their projects to other students and adults, including answering questions about their work. Teams can create supporting materials in any format; posters, photographs, live demonstrations, prototypes, slide decks, logs, videos, a combination of these or any other way that helps them to present their projects. There is no expectation that presentations have to be a rehearsed and polished performance – sharing their work should be enjoyable!

*How do we run an Engineer the Future share in our school?*

A share can be as simple as students in your school coming together to tell each other about their projects. Many schools choose to involve the wider school community, such as parents and governors as well as the students. You are welcome to explore whatever format works for your school and there are examples from other schools and resources to support you at <https://www.greatscienceshare.org/share>



*How do we choose which team attends the UKESF celebration event?*

How you pick a team is up to you but, in keeping with the inclusive nature of the Great Science Share for Schools, we suggest you consider a range of criteria. You could choose the team that showed the most resilience or best teamwork, the team who came up with the most interesting project or the team who would benefit most from attending the celebration event.

*What happens at the celebration event?*

Teams from all the schools taking part will share their projects with each other, alongside taking part in hands-on activities and meeting representatives from local industry.

*Where can I find out more?*

If you still have questions, please get in touch by emailing us at [education@ukesf.org](mailto:education@ukesf.org).