

Making a Difference | At a Glance

Inspiring Aspirations: How pupils gain confidence and skills through STEAM

The Collaborative STEAM Events have had a transformative impact on participating schools, offering pupils opportunities to engage directly with professionals across a wide range of industries.

For many schools, especially in rural areas, these events are a rare chance for children to gain first-hand insight into careers that they may not otherwise encounter. Teachers consistently report that the events inspire curiosity, develop essential skills, and boost pupils' aspirations.

A Teacher from Broughton Moor Primary School shared their feedback from one of the Collaborative Steam Events:

"It's a great opportunity for children to see how their learning in school links to the outside world and helps to raise expectations for children from a deprived area."



BROADENING HORIZONS AND BUILDING SKILLS

Impact on Pupils

One teacher shared:

“The children were captivated and asked so many thoughtful questions. They’ve gone back to class full of ideas about what they might want to do when they grow up.”

Essential skills development has been particularly evident in **listening, speaking, problem solving, and teamwork**. Quieter pupils, who often lack confidence, were observed contributing actively in group activities, while others showed marked improvement in explaining their thinking to others.

Teachers note these experiences tie directly into the curriculum - reinforcing learning in **science, technology, design, and PSHE** - and meet Ofsted priorities for **personal development**.



Diversity of Careers

The diversity of industries represented is also important. **Pupils have explored careers in engineering, nuclear, health, creative industries, and more**, helping them understand that opportunities exist both locally and nationally.

As one headteacher explained:

“Our children now know there are exciting jobs right here in Cumbria. They’ve seen for themselves that the skills they are learning in school are the building blocks to get there.”

Teacher Reflections

“The event sparked so much conversation afterwards - children were buzzing with ideas and questions.”

“This was one of the most engaging and purposeful enrichment activities we’ve had all year.”