

### Introduction

The UK needs more young people from more diverse backgrounds to choose a career in engineering and technology to help improve sustainability and achieve net zero and to drive economic prosperity. Engineering and technology jobs are predicted to grow faster than other industries across the UK to 2030. We want UK engineering and technology to thrive, to support the ambitions of the government's Industrial Strategy and contribute to economic growth. To achieve that it's essential to inspire a more diverse future workforce that boosts creativity, innovation and market insight.

We need more young people to realise there could be a future for them in engineering and tech, yet many of them don't understand what the opportunities are or how to access them. Working in partnership, EngineeringUK wants to change that.

2024/25 marked the second year of EngineeringUK's 5-year strategy, based on our mission to enable more young people from all backgrounds to be informed, inspired and progress into engineering and technology. We achieve this through conducting research and providing evidence that enable us to understand more about future workforce needs. And we evaluate how to inspire the next generation to meet those needs. We work in partnership with hundreds of organisations across the engineering and technology community and lead efforts to improve our collective impact. We run activities for schools to ignite a passion for engineering and technology. And we advocate to ensure all students have the STEM careers education they need and deserve.



# Thank you for your support

Many thanks to all the supporters, partners, members, funders, volunteers, teachers, careers advisors and students who have worked with us over the year.

Engineering UK is a registered charity, and our main source of income is from the registration fees of professionally registered engineers and technicians. This also funds the Engineering Council in its role as the profession's regulatory body via a grant from Engineering UK. We are grateful for this valuable financial contribution from the members of Professional Engineering Institutions and for the time their staff give to supporting our work. Thanks too to our Corporate Members and supporters of individual programmes, including The Big Bang, Climate Schools Programme and EUK Education bursaries. This additional funding enables us to expand our activities even further and ensure that young people experience interactive encounters with a range of employers.





Image © This is Engineering

<sup>\*</sup> Other programmes comprises Climate Schools Programme, Energy Quest, EUK Education bursaries and communications support for engineering and manufacturing T Levels

## Our year in numbers

More than 206,000<sup>°</sup>

participants in our activities for schools

51%

of those schools were priority schools\*

43%

of all secondary schools engaged with our programmes and resources

55,554

students participated in Tomorrow's Engineers Week activity

29,651

Schools Programme

110

new activities added to Neon

**30** 

(of new Neon activities) on environmental sustainability

students visited The Big Bang Fair

students participated in our Climate

82,596

20,379

students participated in a Big Bang at School

113

priority schools completed a STEM engagement activity using one of our bursaries



9,433

digital careers resources downloaded

61,505

printed careers resources distributed across the UK

**30** 

teachers consulted via our teacher network

23 attended

new websites

delegates at Tomorrow's **Engineers Live** 

public examination results day analyses

710

pieces of print, online and broadcast media coverage

MPs / Peers

124

56

new Code Signatories

11

Big Bang at **Parliament** 

> 9 policy consultation

7

live virtual events for The Code community

new Code Supporters

40 Professional Engineering Institutions

Our partners include:

responses

22

Corporate

Members

396 members of the

Tomorrow's **Engineers Code** community

Many more organisations that contributed to our work on resources. policy or schools activities

\*Priority schools have higher proportions of young people from groups who are underrepresented in engineering and technology







#### **EUK Education**

We launched EUK Education, the new home of STEM inspiration. The website and associated socials showcase everything EngineeringUK does for schools. EUK Education went live in September 2024, supporting teachers, educators and careers leaders to find inspirational careers information and resources, schools programmes, funding opportunities and more.





## Gender pathways into engineering and technology

We built a new partnership to drive a collective mission to achieve a step change in the number of young women in education pathways to engineering and technology at age 18. **Gender pathways into engineering and technology** was set up in response to concerning declines in girls' interest in science and underrepresentation of women in engineering and tech careers.

Led by EngineeringUK, BCS, the Chartered Institute for IT, Royal Academy of Engineering, Women's Engineering Society (WES) and Women into Science and Engineering (WISE), the partnership has brought together a coalition of 45 organisations around this shared vision. We established task and finish groups around 6 areas for action and members of the collective are also working together to affect policy change.



#### The Code explores...

In May we launched **The Code** explores... a flagship feature of The Tomorrow's Engineers Code. Designed to offer members flexible, in-depth learning on key outreach topics, The Code explores... blends live online events, on-demand content and resources, and community discussion. The pilot, The Code explores... engaging schools, focused on building stronger, more effective relationships with schools. It highlighted that teachers value curriculum-linked outreach with connections to real engineering and technology careers.



## Some outcomes

We see strong levels of school participation in our activities. Evaluating that activity to assure its quality and understanding more about how much engagement schools have is crucial. Using tailored approaches to our evaluation, we obtain feedback from young people and teachers. And we survey our stakeholders including our Corporate Members, professional engineering institutions and supporters, annually. The feedback we receive helps us iterate and improve what we do.



#### What young people told us:

**Energy Quest had** increased their knowledge of engineering jobs

Attending The Big Bang Fair made them more interested in a job in STEM

Participating in The Big Bang Competition made them want to do more STEM activities in the future



Climate Schools Programme helped them to feel more hopeful about what we can do to tackle climate change

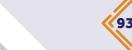


#### What teachers told us:

Climate Schools Programme helped them feel more knowledgeable about engineering and tech careers



The Big Bang Fair highlighted a wide range of careers in engineering and technology



The Big Bang at School was accessible to students of all abilities

#### What stakeholders responding to our survey told us:

#### Engineering UK is seen as a trusted voice on:

- approaches to engage young people in STEM
- equity, diversity and inclusion in the engineering sector
- what enables, deters or inspires young people to pursue a career in engineering and technology

#### **Tomorrow's Engineers Code** signatories agree:

- that being a member of The Code improved the way their organisation understands how its activities relate to other STEM outreach activities
- that The Code has enhanced their collaboration with other organisations involved in STEM outreach





#### Engineering UK is seen as effective at:

- providing insight and guidance to stakeholders on evaluating STEM engagement activities
- providing access to information and guidance on engaging underrepresented audiences
- providing access to advice on how to align and develop effective STEM engagement plans and practices
- delivering campaigns to change young people's perceptions of engineering and tech
- highlighting to young people that they can make a positive impact on the environment **71%** through a career in engineering and tech
- helping teachers identify engineering and tech focused STEM engagement activities



85%

**86%** 







Our commitments to environmental sustainability and equity, diversity and inclusion underpin all our work. Knowing that environmental sustainability is a topic that's important to young people, particularly girls, we use it to inspire them about engineering and technology careers.

Organisationally we commit to reducing our environmental impact and becoming a net zero organisation, reducing all our carbon emissions by at least 90% by 2040 in line with the Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi). We are on track to reduce all our carbon emissions by over 50% by 2030 (from our 2018/19 baseline). We aim to improve both the number and diversity of those joining the sector's workforce. So, we focus our school activity on inspiring more young people from groups underrepresented in engineering. We do this so they are better informed about careers in engineering and technology and the variety of routes into them.

### Some of our plans for: **2025/26**



#### Research and evidence

We'll continue to publish our regular research and analysis outputs.
We will also be working over a 5-year period to explore the extent to which multiple STEM engagements impact on young people's subject choices and career aspirations.

#### Leadership

 We'll continue to work with our networks, including Corporate Members, professional engineering institutions and the Code community to improve the coordination, inclusivity and impact of engineering and technology engagement activities.

#### **Activities for schools**

 We'll continue to work to increase the reach and impact of our activities for young people ensuring they are ethically delivered and include content on sectoral priorities. We will also be working with a new partner to pilot a programme for schools that reveals the role of engineering in the food industry, highlighting associated careers.

#### **Advocacy**

• We'll continue to engage with government to address policy and delivery challenges in STEM and careers education and workforce planning for engineering and technology. We'll do this in partnership with the National Engineering Policy Centre and draw upon our members' expertise and experiences. We will also seek to establish an All-Party Parliamentary Group focusing on engineering and technology skills for growth.

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## Working together to drive change



We're fortunate to have an incredible network of Corporate Members, supporters, funders, professional institutions and the Code community. We collaborate with each other to inspire the next generation into STEM.

If you share our ambition, we'd love to you to work with us to inspire the next generation.

To find out more contact us partnerships@engineeringuk.com







