

Promoting HCS and STEM in our local communities

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Overview

- Why and How I got involved in engagement
- **Why it's important to me**
- Activities I have been involved in
- How to get involved
- Castlebrae Superlab!

Why and how I got involved

- HCS not on my radar in my early career
- Spent time in research and industry
- Unexpected move into HCS in NHS
- Sense of pride and a desire to showcase range of HCS careers available
- Signed up for engagement opportunities with my professional body (IBMS) and contacted my local branch



What does it mean to me?

- Making a positive impact on local communities
- Inspire young people into careers in HCS
- Own personal development – boost skills, build confidence, presentation skills etc
- Networking opportunities
- Extremely rewarding

MOST IMPORTANTLY – IT'S GOOD FUN!!

Activities

Science Mentors

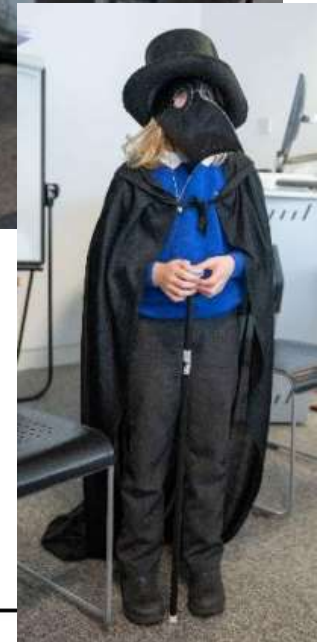
@Castlebrae

- Around 15 mentors –includes students (MSc, PhD), PDRAs, Academics and NHS staff.
- Started at 8 pupils, growing to a high of 24 (averaging 18)
- Weekly sessions run for an hour, and most students stay for the full time.
- Subjects covered: Chemistry, Maths, Biology, Physics.
- Students are also free to ask questions about what it is like to be at university and careers.



TechFest

- Charity who promote STEM to pupils and wider community throughout Scotland
- Workshop @ TechFest Festival 2022 ‘Glorious Germs’
- STEM Festival at RGU Aberdeen
- Early years/ primary programme
- Separate primary outreach programme



| Event | Audience Numbers |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Early Years and Primary Programme | 3116 school pupils and teachers |
| Activity Weekend | 2282 general public |
| Primary Outreach | 680 school pupils and teachers |

STEM Ambassador: People like me!

- Designed show young girls that they can find fulfilling careers in STEM
- Local Girl Guide groups
- List of adjectives to assess personality type
- Introduced ideas of jobs that may not have previously been considered.
- Very well received, created discussion
- Combined this with a short presentation about HCS and a day in the life of a BMS.



| I AM: | TICK | E | I | D |
|----------------|------|---|---|---|
| friendly | ✓ | | | |
| inventive | | | | |
| persistent | ✓ | | | |
| methodical | | | | |
| imaginative | | | | |
| empathic | | | | |
| collaborative | | | | |
| self-motivated | | | | |
| considerate | ✓ | | | |
| self-reliant | | | | |
| cooperative | | | | |

Biomedical Science Day



- IBMS Aberdeen Branch/ Robert Gordons University.
- Case study investigation at Bucksburn Academy celebrating Biomedical Science Day.
- **Fantastic engagement from pupils 'doing real science'!**



Draw what you think a Biomedical Scientist looks like



Careers events

- Local schools, community groups, colleges and universities
- A chance to showcase careers in HCS
- Resources available: professional bodies, local NHS trusts, charities etc



How you can get involved!

- Check your professional body, local branches.
- Become a STEM Ambassador
- Liaise with local Universities/ colleges
- Use your personal and professional networks
- Sign up for involvement in events: Healthcare Science Week (March), Biomedical Science Day (June), National Pathology Week (November)



Useful links

- www.TechFest.org.uk
- www.STEM.org.uk
- www.edinburghbioquarter.com/stem-education/
- www.dyw.scot
- www.mcrpathways.org

Castlebrae SuperLab

Dom Cairns-Gibson

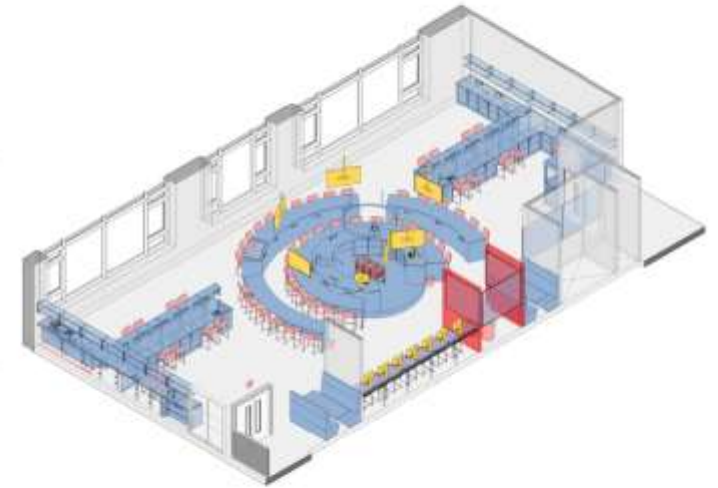
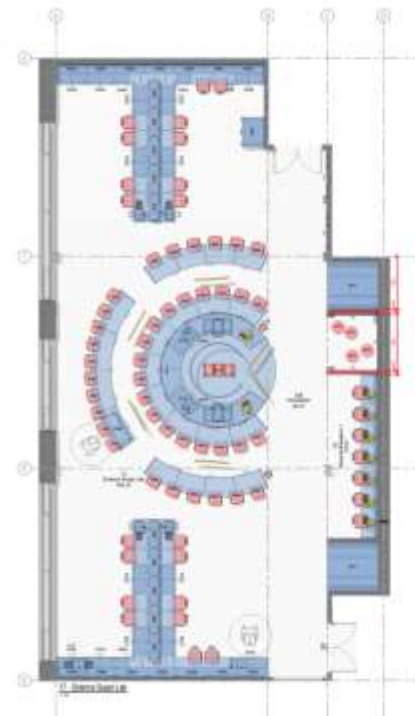
Education and Engagement
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SuperLab



Other Facilities



Science Mentors



Thank you

Want to know more?

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