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GATEWAY
TO
SKILLS



Impact Report

November 2023 - July 2024

SEGRO

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CEME'S ROLE IN SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

CEME was established in 2003 as a registered charity with the objective of contributing to the regeneration of the Thames Gateway region creating prosperity and jobs. For more than 20 years, the organisation has had strong partnerships in education and business, with local authorities and institutions.

CEME has also become a well-respected business campus providing premium, flexible workspace, workshops and events space for training, conferences and private hire. CEME remains a registered charity aspiring to make a difference to people's lives for the better.

CEME is based in Rainham, East London, an area surrounded by major urban and industrial developments, including the new Thames Freeport, film and production corridor, a new hydrogen infrastructure route and the relocation of London's famous food markets, all of which are driving the skills agenda with a focus on new green skills needed – both today and in the future.

Across the Thames Estuary and surrounding boroughs, it is estimated that 1.3 million new jobs will be created by 2050. CEME's role is to support local communities through education and upskilling, as well as supporting businesses by helping to deliver the workforce in the short and longer term.

To ensure our local communities benefit from these new jobs, CEME is working with several partners in the education, business, government and the charitable sectors to establish and support a range of key projects and initiatives around green skills.

We are proud to have delivered the Gateway to Skills Programme, which has kindly been sponsored by SEGRO, and supported by SEGRO volunteers. This report sets out the key findings and results from the programme, delivered between November 2023 and July 2024.



IMPACTFUL STEM LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

Many of the new jobs set to be created within our boroughs will be in engineering, construction, technology and manufacturing, which is why it is important to support impactful STEM learning and engagement in our schools, and ensure our young people understand the career opportunities and pathways open to them.

The CEME Gateway to Skills initiative was relaunched at the end of March 2022, sponsored by SEGRO, to give local secondary school students aged 12-15 access to first class training and equipment to develop their science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) skills.

The aim of this initiative is to complement the national curriculum by bringing STEM learning to school students in a fun, interactive and engaging way, encouraging our young people to follow pathways into STEM careers.

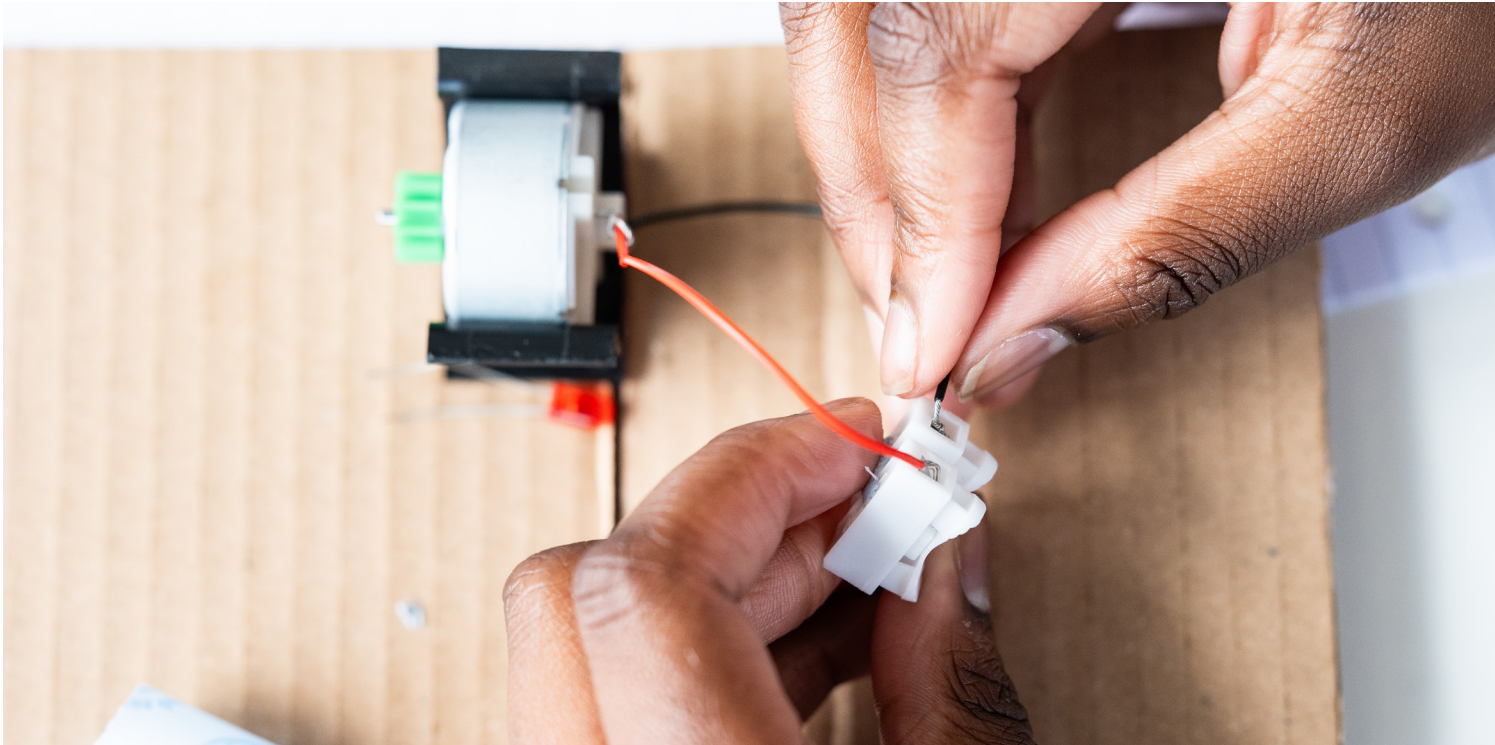
We work with professional STEM tutors to bring an exciting and hands-on experience to students, which includes a range of fun activities including the designing, building, and testing of crash proof and robotic vehicles, wind turbines, bridges, and a Mars landing rover. STEM days are held at our East London innovation campus during term time, providing a new and fun environment for learning outside of the school setting.

While The Smallpeice Trust delivers the day's curriculum, hosting it at CEME allows children to meet real-life STEM professionals. Imagine the excitement of seeing an actual office environment, touring the facilities, and witnessing the workstations used by Ford apprentices!

This direct exposure makes STEM fields more tangible and relatable. Studies show that exposure to inspiring workplaces can significantly raise career aspirations. Seeing the exciting possibilities within STEM fields at CEME can ignite a passion for these subjects in young minds, motivating them to pursue STEM careers in their own future.



THE SMALLPEICE TRUST AND CEME



THE SMALLPEICE TRUST

The collaboration between the Smallpeice Trust and CEME creates an exceptional STEM education experience for children in Havering, Newham and Barking and Dagenham. By hosting STEM days at CEME, the partnership offers children a unique opportunity to engage with STEM subjects in a real-world context. Students are inspired by meeting STEM professionals in their workplace, touring state-of-the-art facilities, and witnessing firsthand the practical applications of their studies. This immersive experience helps to bridge the gap between the classroom and the world of work, sparking curiosity and ambition in young minds. Moreover, by showcasing local STEM careers, CEME demonstrates that exciting opportunities exist right on their doorstep, fostering a sense of belonging and potential within the community.

The Smallpeice Trust is an educational charity which encourages young people into engineering careers. The founder, Dr Cosby Smallpeice, was a pioneering engineer who designed the Smallpeice Lathe and donated £1.6 million to start the charity in 1966. The organisation reaches young people through STEM days, engineering courses, scholarships and more.

The charity helps young people from all backgrounds across the UK to explore their interest in STEM subjects and engineering, delivering in-person and virtual STEM days for primary and secondary school students, running multi-day engineering courses at outstanding universities, and awarding prestigious, two-year Arkwright Scholarships to future engineering leaders.

www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk



“ At The Smallpeice Trust, we believe anything is possible when you know how, and we’re here to give young people everything they need to fuel their passion for engineering. We couldn’t do that without the support of the charities, parents, teachers, universities and corporate partners we work with every day. ”

GATEWAY TO SKILLS STEM DAY IMPACT

Between November 2023 and July 2024, we have delivered our Gateway to Skills STEM sessions to:

976 students



40.5%

of the students considering a career in STEM were female



55%

of the students considering a career in STEM were male



4%

of the students considering a career in STEM were non-binary

Based on feedback received

What the students thought of the STEM day

98.6%

of the students enjoyed the STEM Day

92.1%

of the students learned something new

86.2%

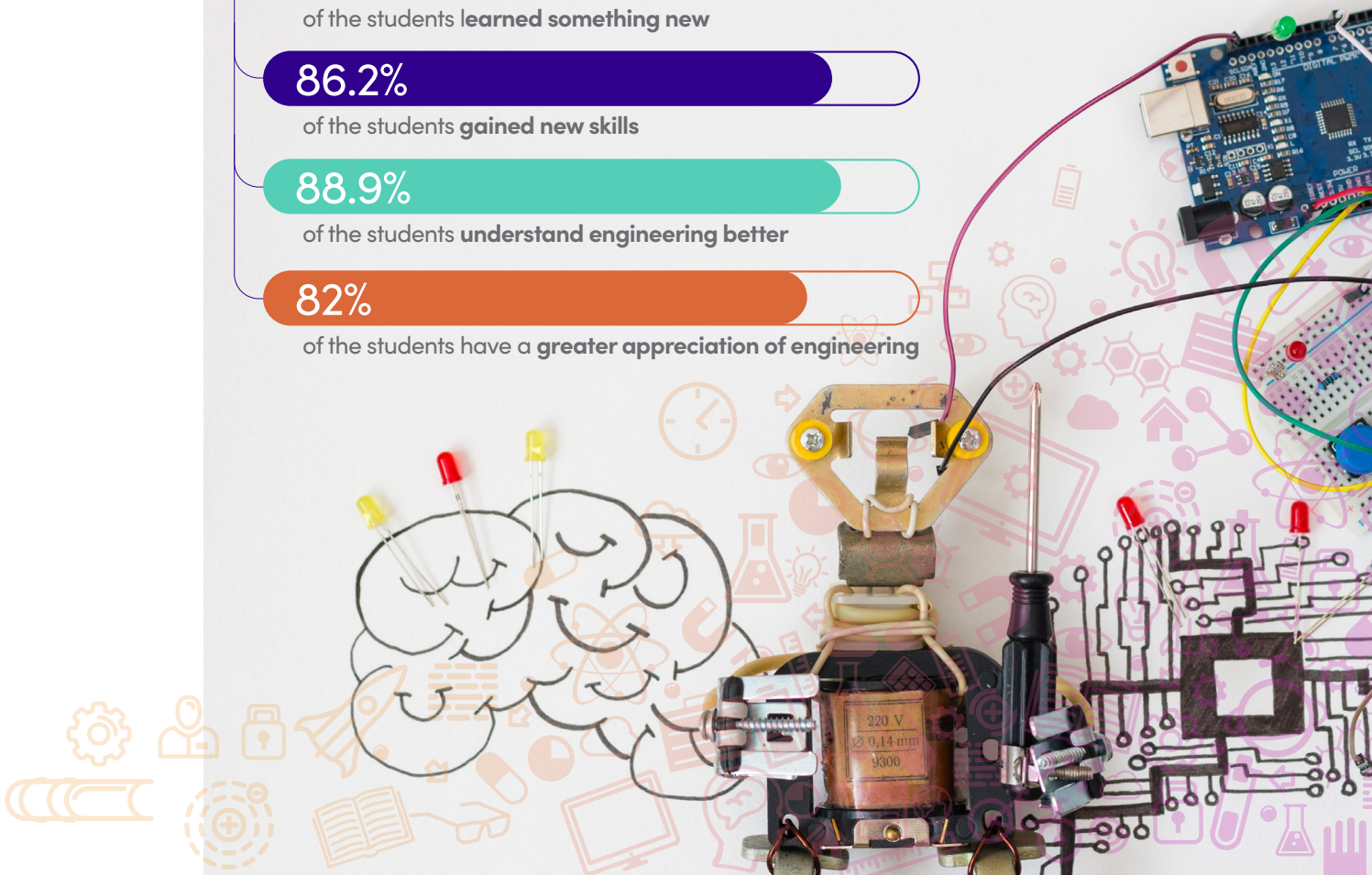
of the students gained new skills

88.9%

of the students understand engineering better

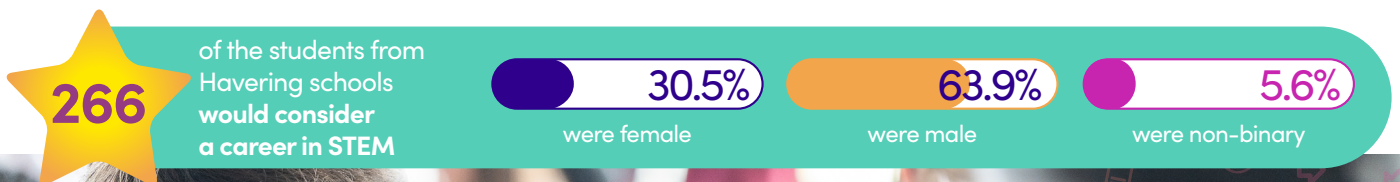
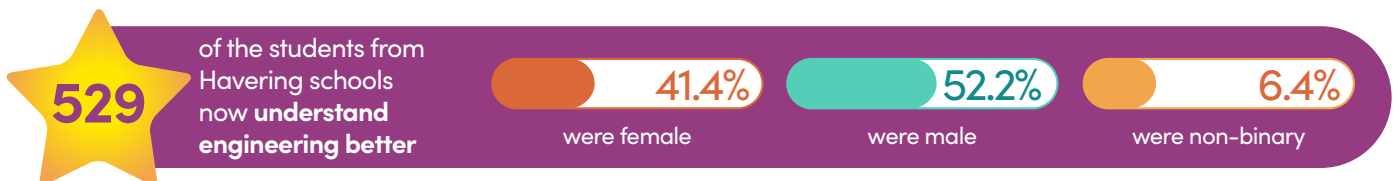
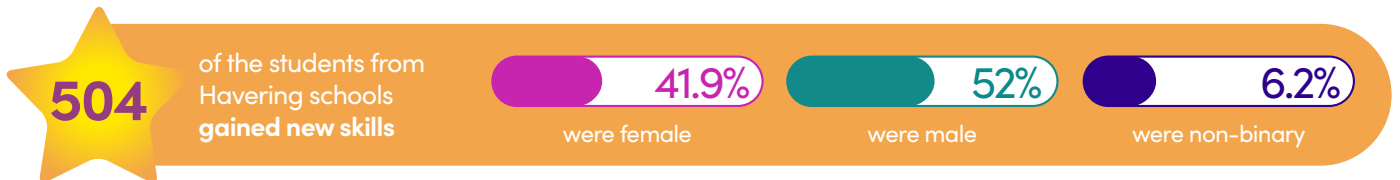
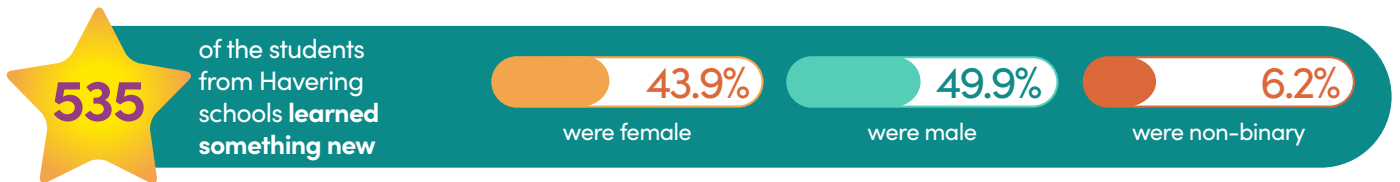
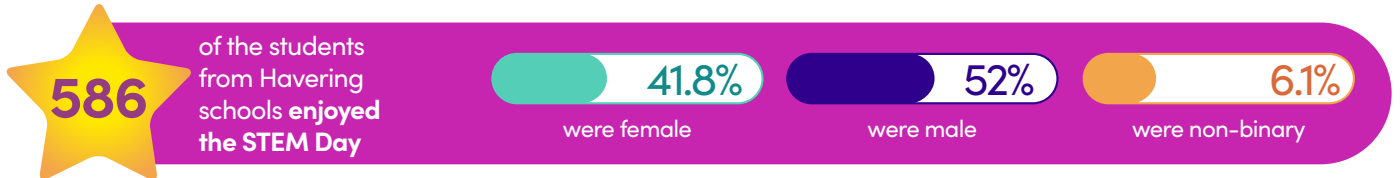
82%

of the students have a greater appreciation of engineering



HAVERING DATA

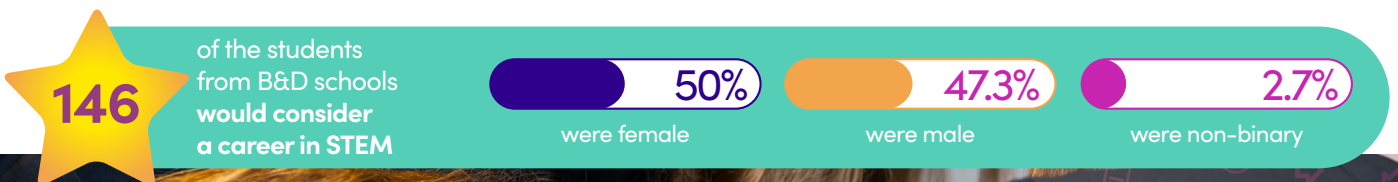
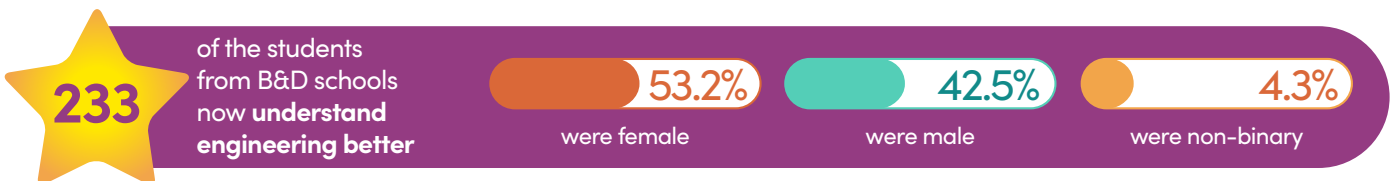
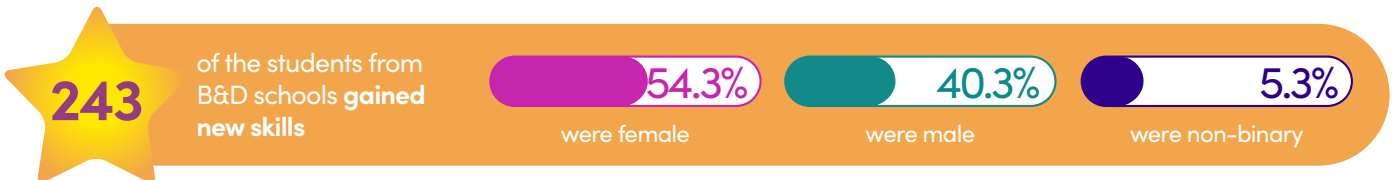
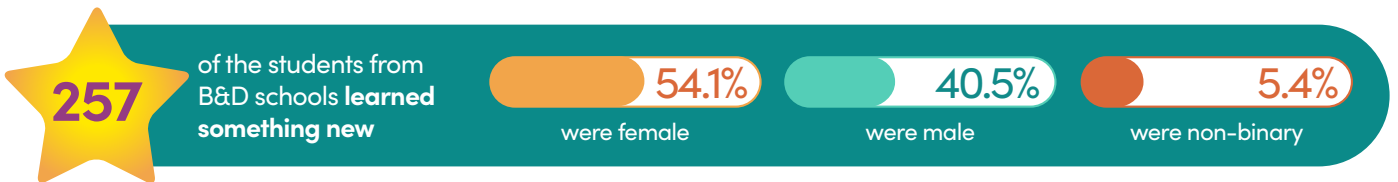
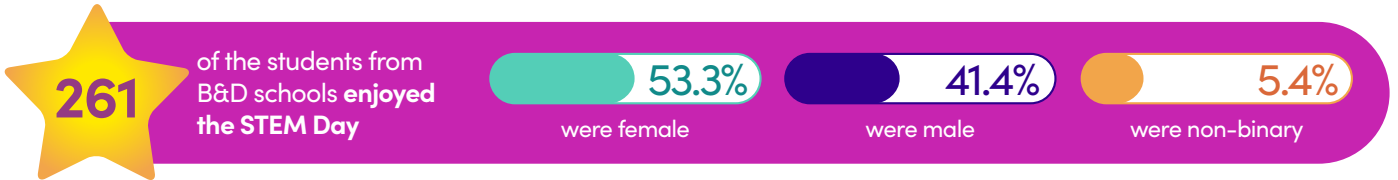
Based on feedback received



BARKING AND DAGENHAM DATA

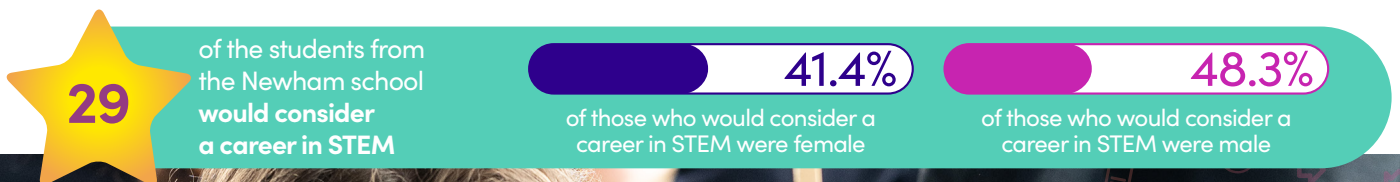
Barking & Dagenham

Based on feedback received



NEWHAM DATA

Based on feedback received



TEACHERS' TESTIMONIALS

Well-trained deliverers, high impact and engaging.

Good range of activities.

Very engaging for the pupils and opens their minds to different opportunities.

Excellent delivered – lots of skills used throughout the day.

Really good event for students.

The students enjoyed it and were engaged.

Engaging and knowledgeable, kept students interested.

Students enjoyed the main activity.

Engaging, especially for students interested in STEM."

The delivery of the day was brilliant, the students were excited to learn and build. They were really engaged and learning constantly, developing new skills and links with STEM careers were made.

Amazing! All students were engaged.

Great day, well organised and presented – really worthwhile for the students.

Interactive and collaborative.

An excellent opportunity for students to work as teams and use equipment that they wouldn't normally have.

Interesting, with group activities which helped pupils to explore.

Hands on, engaging and inspiring.

STUDENTS' TESTIMONIALS

I loved every part of the experience.

I learned something new today.

Thank you, it was very beneficial and an interesting topic to learn about.

It was amazing, I'm probably going to do engineering now.

It was really fun and interesting.

Very exciting and a fun opportunity for me as a year 9 student.

It was very enjoyable and fun and gave us a chance to be creative and build skills.

Thank you for teaching me more about engineering.

This was very fun and improved my teamwork skills.

Thank you very much for this chance to learn more about STEM and how it helps the world.

I am very grateful to be here today and experience this fantastic activity.



GATEWAY TO SKILLS STEM PROGRAMME 2023-2024 SCHOOLS:

- ★ Riverside School
- ★ Redden Court School
- ★ Gaynes School
- ★ Royal Liberty School
- ★ Dagenham Park Church of England School
- ★ Greatfields School
- ★ Abbs Cross Academy
- ★ All Saints Catholic School
- ★ Rainham Academy
- ★ Royal Docks Academy
- ★ Sanders Draper School

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENGINEERS

Research with students by EngineeringUK shows the power of role models.

Young people who met an engineer held more positive views of engineering (81% compared with 64% who did not).

Young people who spoke to someone about a career in STEM were more likely to see a career in engineering as desirable (71% compared to 53%) and have a good knowledge of next steps (73% compared to 54%).

As part of our Gateway to Skills STEM activity day, we provide a careers session inviting people from STEM backgrounds and industries in to talk about their career journey and running a Q&A session with the students.



THANKS!



The SEGRO team has provided a number of volunteers throughout 2024, who have all given at least an hour of their time to support this programme. We would like to say a huge thank you to:

Alex Heat, Steve Pain, Chris Tarten and Rachel Quinn.





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