

## Back to school with HS2's new education resources

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HS2's Skills, Employment and Education team has launched a range of brand-new education and teaching resources which align to the national curriculum and promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects.

The materials, which are free to download from [the education pages on HS2's website](#), have been developed in conjunction with education specialists and promote the link between careers and STEM subjects - opening pupils' eyes to the range of opportunities that major infrastructure projects, like HS2, create.

The suite of 20 resources are tailored to the national curriculum for pupils in Key Stages 1- 4, alongside bespoke resources for SEND pupils and those in further education. The resources are designed to save teachers time and help make lesson planning easier, as most include a teacher's guide, ready to deliver presentation and a student worksheet.

The activities bring to life some of the complex construction challenges linked to building HS2 - such as designing tunnels and installing new bridges, allowing pupils to understand the link between STEM

subjects and future career pathways.

The resources also showcase the breadth of non-construction focused jobs that HS2 supports. Activities and challenges set for students allow them to build their knowledge and understanding of the skills required to support archaeological excavations, as well as ensuring that the natural environment and local wildlife is protected and enhanced.

Richard Winter, Education Manager at HS2 Ltd said: “As the construction of Britain’s new railway gathers speed, we’ve increased the range of free materials we are offering to both teachers and parents, reflecting the very latest developments in the delivery of HS2.

“Our toolkits are designed to inspire young people and show how STEM subjects map to careers they may never have previously considered. We hope that parents, teachers and pupils will find them to be fun and informative.”

As part of its drive to ensure that Britain’s new railway leaves a lasting skills legacy, HS2 and its contractors deliver workshops, presentations and work experience programmes to schools and colleges along the route of the railway. Since Royal Assent in 2017, HS2 and its supply chain have committed more than 7000 volunteer days to supporting school engagement, and a comprehensive programme of activity is planned for students returning this autumn.

HS2’s education programme promotes pathways into training and employment and has already helped to inspire careers within the sector for a number of young people.

Former HS2 apprentice, Emily Scott, was inspired to apply for her apprenticeship after meeting HS2’s education team at a local skills and careers event. After successfully completing her apprenticeship, Emily now works for HS2 as an assistant procurement manager.

Katie Houston completed her work experience placement with HS2 in 2019 and went on to secure an apprenticeship with HS2 the following year. She is now one year into her studies working with HS2’s project and controls team.

To access HS2’s free online education resources, visit [hs2.org.uk/education](https://hs2.org.uk/education)

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