



SCIENCE SUMMER SCHOOL

JUNE 29th

***SUPPORT US TO MAKE THE UK THE BEST PLACE
TO DO SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING***

Hosted by Professor Brian Cox CBE,
Lord Andrew Mawson OBE, St Paul's Way School and
University Schools Trust

Introducing Science Summer School

Science Summer School (SSS) 2026 marks the 14th year Professor Brian Cox CBE, Lord Mawson OBE, St Paul's Way School (SPW) and University Schools Trust (UST) will host students from across London, providing innovative experiences that shine a light on what a passion for STEAM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) can do to transform lives.

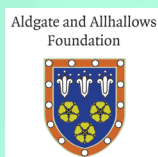
SSS 2026 is not just about education; it is about empowerment. We provide students with real-life role models, industry insights and networking opportunities to help them see STEAM careers as an achievable and exciting future. This is part of a national drive to make Britain the best place in the world to pursue a STEAM career a country where all young people see themselves represented and welcomed.

The UK faces a growing skills gap in STEAM industries, and diversity remains a challenge, with women making up only 29% of the STEAM workforce and many minority groups underrepresented in science and engineering fields. Our mission is to harness the power of partnership and inspire the next generation to build successful careers in STEAM industries, and in turn enhance the UK's future prosperity. Our success has seen this extraordinary initiative rolled out as far as Yorkshire and Northern Ireland.

Over the next 5 years we intend to expand SSS to a multi-site event held over more days and we are seeking partners to join us on our journey. We want to extend our reach to more young people in London, to promote careers in STEAM to the communities we serve and to continue to excite and feed the creative imaginations of the next generation.

Thank you to our funders

We'd like to give a huge thank you to our Science Summer School funders. Their generous and unwavering support helps bring this incredible opportunity to life year after year.



RMG | ASSOCIATES

How can you help?

SSS would not be possible without the support of our sponsors and partners. Not only is there a significant cost to run this event, but for it to have a true impact we need knowledge and expertise from people beyond the school gates.

There are a number of different ways you and your organisation can get involved:

Ted Talk Speaker

We need four keynote speakers to share the stage with Professor Brian Cox and engage students with an 18-minute session linking cutting edge STEAM innovation and research to real life application.

Practical Workshops

Deliver a 50 minute session practical workshops with a group of 20 10-12 year old students to give them a practical STEAM experience that inspires and excites.

Speed Networking Careers Event

Be part of a one-hour session providing senior students with the opportunity to discover a wide range of career opportunities within STEAM industries through quick and engaging conversations.

Sponsorship

SSS costs over £30,000 to organise. With school budgets squeezed more than ever, we are reliant on the support of Patrons and Sponsors to help us maintain this unique experience.

Stream, Record, Share

This year, we hope to reach more young people by live streaming talks and recording the day through video and photography. We are exploring whether any partners might be able to offer equipment, technical or marketing expertise to support live streaming, filming, or photography, as some organisations have kindly done in the past.

Want to find our more?

If you want to be a part of SSS 2026 then please email Chris Bloor, Head of External Affairs, on cbloor@ust.london

Highlights from SSS 2025

Unleashing Curiosity

From extracting to DNA, to building vehicles to forensically investigating crime scenes, hundreds of students were treated to an array of STEAM related workshops, delivered by a combination of our staff and generous partners from across Higher Education and the private sector.

Within the wonderful setting of our Willoughby Theatre, Professor Brian Cox hosted a series of talks alongside esteemed guest speakers on an array of topics which saw attendees transported from Poplar to the outer reaches of the solar system.



From Poplar to the outer reaches of the solar system.

An Event for Everyone

Inclusivity is at the heart of education across UST. This is why we built a designated programme for those students with additional needs. Larger groups of ambassadors assisted longer workshops which allowed all participants to fully embrace the wonder and excitement of the day.

2025 was also the first year that activities were expanded to include primary aged pupils, with over 200 taking part. Capturing the imagination of so many young minds will undoubtedly help to spark their curiosities, engage their questioning minds and open new horizons of opportunity.



Looking to the Future

Year 12 students enjoyed an exclusive seminar with Professor Cox, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to question one of the country's greatest scientific minds. They all supported SSS throughout the day and were also rewarded with a careers networking event from professionals across STEAM sectors.



Tea with the Professor

The day was topped off with 'Tea with Brian', an event open to students, parents and partners from across the schools. Professor Brian Cox hosted a Q&A with his fellow presenters, exploring their personal journeys into their chosen profession, as well as some of the work that has excited them the most. The audience were encouraged to participate, and it was incredible to see their enthusiasm and the extent they were stimulated to pose challenging questions.

Uniting the STEAM Community Community

STEAM employers are vocal about the challenges they face recruiting a diverse workforce, particularly from disadvantaged backgrounds. Set in the heart of Tower Hamlets, SSS sets out not just to inspire young people but build bridges between education and the workplace.

UST is founded on the premise that partnership is at the heart of a transformational education, and SSS typifies this approach. Over 30 different organisations combined to make 2025 the best event yet and our heartfelt thanks go to everyone who made it so special.



What will SSS 2026 look like?

Bigger and Better

Last year was the first to take place in person for five years. With 700 students involved from over 15 different schools, it was the most ambitious incarnation of SSS yet. Our ambition is that this year has an even bigger impact, bringing students' studies to life through a blend of stimulating keynote speakers and a variety of practical workshops, allowing inquisitive minds to explore new knowledge, trial the untested and discover the unknown.

Fueling Curiosity to Build Tomorrow's Innovators

SSS 2026 will focus on the core skills that underpin scientific discovery. At the core of this is a sense of curiosity. We will show students what is possible when they embrace their inner explorers, focusing on core skills like critical thinking, problem-solving and working collaboratively.

For STEAM sectors to thrive in the UK, it is imperative to nurture these attributes in our young learners so that they can apply the technical knowledge they learn. The fun and engaging workshops will have this embedded into them.

Parental and carer involvement is vital to the success of SSS 2026. Parents shape aspirations by supporting university and apprenticeship routes and recognising STEAM as a high-profile pathway. Inviting them to events such as the Tea Party with Brian Cox will broaden understanding of STEAM careers and help families confidently support ambitious, future-

This Year's Theme is...

*Everyone's a Scientist:
Discovery begins with Curiosity*

What is staying the same?

- A focus on STEM innovation and career pathways
- Open to primary and secondary aged students
- Activities for students with additional needs
- Careers focused sixth form networking event

Now reaching thousands of students

We want more students to dream big, so we will be live streaming lectures from our keynote speakers. This will mean schools across the country can tune in to hear Professor Brian Cox and our other inspirational guests.

Social Impact

SSS started as part of the St Paul's Way Transformation Project, a pioneering collaboration between housing, health and education providers, along with the private sector, to rejuvenate a deprived area of Tower Hamlets.

The project brought together the numerous physical improvements along St Paul's Way, created new networks and relationships between the various parties and local residents, and pursued a coordinated vision for the future of the area.

Prior to the project, SPW was one of the poorest performing schools, not just in Tower Hamlets but across the country. Now, it's results are not only consistently at the upper end of the borough, but significantly above the national average on key performance indicators. Some notable highlights include:

- 71% of students graduate to go onto Higher Education (remainder into employment or Degree Apprenticeships)
- 55% of A Level grades were A*-B, above the local average of 42%
- Year-on-year rises of students taking up STEAM subjects
- 97% of our sixth form students are from the BAME community.
- Selected to share good practice nationally with other schools as a DfE Behaviour and Attendance Hub.
- School participation in cutting edge diabetes research project.
- Selected as a Teach First Delivery Partner to support

This success has been built upon raising aspiration. From launching the music scholarship programme to becoming recognised as the LTA's tennis School of the Year, SSS been part of a movement that has helped redefine what education can look like in one of the most deprived areas in London. Of the UST attendees, on average almost half of students are eligible to receive Pupil Premium.



University Schools Trust

SPW is a member of University Schools Trust, a Multi-Academy Trust that was formed with six leading Higher Education providers, as well as a range of public and private sector supporters. Together we have built a trailblazing curriculum that puts scientific discovery at the heart of our approach to education. Alongside Royal Greenwich Trust School, which boasts one of the leading engineering courses in London, we are ideally placed to help shape the STEAM leaders of tomorrow.

