

## Executive Summary 2020/21

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It has been a challenging year for everyone, and NUSTEM was no different. I am immensely proud of how the NUSTEM team have worked together, whilst working remotely. Members of the team have been through personally and professionally difficult circumstances and I couldn't ask for a better set of people to have supported each other and the work of NUSTEM. Thank you to all of them.

This year we have continued to work to develop ways to support schools through remote delivery and shared our learning with many other organisations through seminars and informal discussions. We have redeveloped our classroom workshops for primary schools so that they could take place using a remote format through video conferencing software, with resources being sent to school before the sessions. We have also been able to work with an increased number of academic colleagues through our online NUSTEM Encounters Assemblies, as well as support public engagement activities more broadly across the university. Through our work, Northumbria University has been able to support local communities and schools throughout the pandemic.

Collaboration with others is an important way for NUSTEM to influence the STEM engagement landscape. This year we have worked with organisations such as Museums Northumberland, Engineering UK, British Science Association and the Reading Agency, and with EPSRC Engagement Fellows Dr Helen Bridle (Heriot-Watt University) and Professor Trevor Cox (Salford University).

Following on from the project with the NELEP on the Careers in Initial Teacher Education (CITE) last year, we adapted the training materials for serving teachers, and were able to offer the three session CPD in the Autumn and Spring this year. The training continues to receive positive feedback and has led to further collaboration with the NELEP and a Multi Academy trust to explore the impact of whole-school training in careers-related learning.

This report provides a broad overview of the work of NUSTEM in the academic year September 2020 – July 2021, how we have responded to the challenge of the pandemic, and shows how we continue to work to improve the diversity and number of young people choosing a career in STEM.

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Director, NUSTEM

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# nustem

Working for a vibrant and sustainable STEM sector which meets the needs of learners and employers, reflecting the diversity of wider society.

## The year in numbers 2020 - 2021

**7363**

interactions with  
Children and  
Young People



**1531**

interactions with the  
wider community,  
including families,  
teachers and science  
communicators.



**88**

partner schools and  
schools linked through  
collaborative projects



**SCHOOLS**

**1380**

books and activity  
packs gifted to North  
East families during  
lockdowns



**33**

Northumbria University  
researchers participated in  
NUSTEM activities during  
the year



**53**

**EXTERNAL  
ORGANISATIONS**

Sharing learning and  
resources with the wider  
STEM Engagement  
community



Since 2014, NUSTEM has worked with 13860 individual primary school children, and had over 121600 interactions with children, young people and the wider community.

Find out more at [nustem.uk](http://nustem.uk)  
[nustem@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:nustem@northumbria.ac.uk)



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