

NUSTEM Annual Report: Executive Summary

NUSTEM's vision is for a vibrant and sustainable STEM sector which meets the needs of learners and employers, reflecting the diversity of wider society.

A focus for this academic year was on disseminating our approach and influencing STEM engagement more widely. We have spent several years developing our Theory of Change and carrying out research and evaluation to measure the impact of that approach on children's career knowledge and aspirations. This year, the Theory of Change was published and we are now in a position to share this work, helping other organisations benefit from the thinking and development we have already done. This can be seen in our work with the North of Tyne Combined Authority around their STEM and Digital Skills Programme, our collaboration with Museums Northumberland, and our engagement with external organisations such as the Institute of Physics, the Reading Agency, and the Department for Education.

NUSTEM's innovative approach has been recognised by external bodies. We were shortlisted in three awards this year: for Career-related Learning in Primary Schools at the UK Career Development Awards, for Community Engagement Award (University sector) at the Educate North Awards, and for the Airbus GEDC Diversity award. As of July, we're still waiting to hear the outcome for the Educate North Award, but were delighted to be chosen as a finalist in the Airbus GEDC Diversity Award. The judging panel were impressed with the comprehensive nature of the Theory of Change and very interested in considering how this could be adapted for use by employers. As a finalist, we will receive coaching from an Airbus executive manager and \$1500 to support dissemination of our Theory of Change.

Within the university we are collaborating with a wider set of our colleagues to strengthen Northumbria's outreach activities, and help academic colleagues share their research with young people through our partner schools.

As with many organisations, the COVID19 global pandemic meant we had to reconsider how we support our key audiences. Our STEM at Home activities, and the inclusive principles which informed their development, allowed us to work with our partner Primary Science Coordinators to support parents and carers with home learning. In the coming months we will be considering this further, and looking at how we can improve and extend our impact in times of challenge.

Dr Carol Davenport

Director, NUSTEM

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2019/20 in numbers

11811
Interactions with Children
and Young People

1049 **875**
Families Teachers

44 **SCHOOLS**
34 Primary
10 Secondary

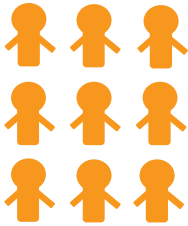
22
Activities delivered with
researchers from
Northumbria University

Engaged with
62
external organisations

NUSTEM included in
7
University research
funding applications

8
Conference
presentations

£305k
Grants and Funding
obtained

Supporting 13178 
Individual primary school
children in STEM since 2014

