Become a CyberFirst Ambassador

CyberFirst is a programme designed to support schools and young people to develop their skills and cyber experience. CyberFirst frequently run events in schools and we're always looking for volunteers to host a careers stand, talk about their cyber career journey or perhaps run a workshop - if you're passionate about inspiring the next generation then please sign-up to get involved.

There is a bit of admin before you can support events, but don't worry, we're here to help if you have any questions or concerns. The CyberFirst team work in partnership with the STEM Ambassador programme, a national volunteering programme that supports schools across the UK to access STEM careers and enrichment opportunities. The STEM Ambassador programme provides training, DBS Checks and admin support to all those who are looking to support CyberFirst events. The STEM team will be supporting you through the admin bits, and the CyberFirst team will help you find events!

STEP 1 Register as a STEM Ambassador: www.stem.org.uk/register

Graphic Science deliver the STEM Ambassador programme in the South West (and are also consortium partners for the CyberFirst Programme in the South West), please get in touch with the STEM team if you have any queries about joining the STEM Ambassador Programme: ambassadors@graphicscience.co.uk. **Duration: 10 minutes**

STEP 2 Opt in to the Cyber Ambassadors Scheme

When registering as a STEM Ambassador there is an option, under the Skills and Qualifications tab, to opt in to various Schemes. The STEM Ambassador programme is very broad, encompassing all aspects of STEM. Schemes are more specific, allowing volunteers to focus on a particular subject or sector. Please sign-up to the Cyber Ambassadors Scheme to opt in to cyber specific events, news and communications. **Duration: 1-2 minutes.**

STEP 3 Complete the Induction training and an Enhanced Child Workforce DBS Check

The Induction training module covers a basic introduction to volunteering, working with schools and child safeguarding. **Duration: 45 minutes**

For child safeguarding purposes the STEM Ambassador programme requires all volunteers to hold an Enhanced Child Workforce DBS Check, this is a specific kind of DBS Check that includes checks against the children's barred list. The STEM Ambassador programme will issue you with the appropriate DBS Check for volunteering at no cost to you or your employer. If you already hold a DBS Check that is an Enhanced Child Workforce Check then it may be transferable to volunteering, please speak to the STEM Ambassador team to confirm and transfer any existing checks. Please note that Checks that do not include the children's barred list cannot be used for volunteering with young people and will not be accepted by the STEM Ambassador programme.
Completing the DBS Application & ID Check: Approx. 20 minutes
DBS Application Processing: Approx. 1-2 weeks, but can take up to 8 weeks

Final Step - Becoming a CyberFirst Ambassador with the National Cyber Security Centre

The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) funds the CyberFirst Schools Programme and will provide support and updates to all volunteers who are engaging young people through the CyberFirst Schools programme. The final step to joining the CyberFirst Ambassador community within the NCSC is signing the NCSC's data sharing agreement, this document is to give the NCSC consent to contact you and provides an outline of the programme and expectations. There is no additional admin or paperwork beyond this, with your consent the STEM Ambassador programme will share your volunteer approval and DBS Check details with the NCSC.

Once you've received your DBS Certificate please contact the STEM team within Graphic Science: ambassadors@graphicscience.co.uk and they will send you the agreement to read, sign and return. That's it! You're now a CyberFirst Ambassador - welcome to the team!

Getting involved in CyberFirst Events

The CyberFirst team run lots of events across the South West, and we're very enthusiastic about employer groups getting involved with events - this is great for the students because they get to meet lots of different role models within a company or sector, and it's great for the volunteers as you have the support of your team and can work together to inspire and engage young people. We welcome people from various backgrounds and disciplines, so long as your role relates to cyber industries then we'd love to host you at an event soon. Please get in touch with the CyberFirst team to find out what's happening near you: **Chris Hotchin: chris@techspark.co or Charlotte Smith: charlotte.s@cynam.org**