



5th GirlsTech meeting in Newcastle, UK: Instruments, approaches and good practice

Women in STEM careers – Employer and apprentice perspective. Chelsea Parker, Learning & HR Advisor and Jessica Houghton, Fabrication & Welding Apprentice, Caterpillar Peterlee.

Jess is now in her fourth and final year of her Fabrication and Welding Apprenticeship. Throughout her apprenticeship Jessica matured very quickly in a predominantly male environment and has the respect of her peers throughout the work shop. Jessica is an asset to Caterpillar and a role model to younger apprentices. Jess is a very determined young lady who has developed excellent fabrication skills throughout her apprenticeship in addition to completing work on process, quality and product improvements to help cut time and costs to the business. Jessica's talent was recognised last year by Hartlepool College who awarded her Apprentice of the Year 2016. Jess will be talking about the reasons for her interest in embarking on a manufacturing career in addition to outlining her story so far.

Dr Mhairi Crawford, Development Director, Women In Science & Engineering Campaign (WISE).

People Like Me: Research published in 2014 by WISE highlighted that girls self-identify differently to boys. Out of this came the innovative People Like Me resource which supports girls to explore their strengths and through this where their personality traits will support them being happy and successful in the workplace. Girls then have an opportunity to explore inspirational role models with the same personality traits with exciting careers in STEM. This new approach raises awareness of the huge range of opportunities for girls who retain a STEM subject post 16 while showing them that People Like Them can do these roles.

This presentation will provide a brief overview of the research behind the resource, some of the highlights of People Like Me, the benefits of training people on delivering this effectively to girls with a sneak peak of developments for the future.

Gateshead College approach to girls in STEM subjects, Katy Malia, Gateshead College.

Girls Do – A Case Study: .An overview of activities undertaken by Gateshead College at college, in schools and university events such as marketing, with a focus on role models. This will be set within the context of male to female enrolment figures for STEM related courses and the impact of interventions.



Employer perspective: Geoff Ford, Chairman, Ford Aerospace Limited & Ford Component Manufacturing Limited.

Geoff Ford owns Ford Aerospace, which has three sites in the north east and he is also the sponsor of Gateshead College Ford Engineering Academy, which will start 32 learners on a Traineeship (work placement and core skills) in September. Geoff is particularly aware of the importance of encouraging females into the industry and has a higher than average proportion of his workforce who are female.

Presentation on Derby College's female STEM engagement, Mayuri Krishnan, Engineering lecturer, and Robin Webber-Jones, Head of Engineering, Derby College.

The presentation will give an overview of the differences in status of engineers in the UK and abroad, and consider the factors that affect the number of women in the workforce, such as the influence of parents and family, and how this can be addressed from an early age. The presentation will further consider how sharing practice may help us to come up with global solutions.

Presentation on Chichester College's female STEM engagement, Elaine Johnston, Deputy Head of Learning - STEM.

An overview the work being undertaken at Chichester College to encourage more girls to join STEM related courses with a focus on gender bias in the language used in course leaflets and STEM widening participation with local universities.

Presentation on Exeter College's female STEM engagement, Danni Potter, IT Team Leader, Faculty of Business, IT and A-Plus.

A summary of the work being undertaken at Exeter College in the Faculties delivering the following STEM subjects: Maths, Sciences, Information Technology, Engineering, Automotive, Aerospace and Construction to increase and sustain female engagement in the STEM subjects. Focus on work with schools and taster events, teaching and learning initiatives and projects being undertaken with employers and in teaching and learning

Presentation from Dawn Hirst, Marketing manager, Sector Skills Council, SEMTA.

An overview of the work that the Science, Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies Alliance (SEMTA) has been conducting to promote engineering as an exciting and valuable career path for women looking to enter the sector.