

Rail Week STEM Ambassadors

General guidance

Young people working in rail find that it's a fantastic place to have a career. It's a great industry that offers so much potential and a career that can make a huge impact on people's lives.

Through getting involved in Rail Week events, students, parents and teachers will get first-hand experience of what young people do to deliver millions of passenger journeys every day.

Many schools unfortunately won't be able to take time out to go on a visit however and that's where Rail Week STEM Ambassadors can support by bringing rail into the classroom!

Rail Week STEM Ambassadors come from all walks of life, from engineers to operators, transport planners to financial analysts, traffic managers and train controllers and from a range of companies in every region of the UK.

Rail Week STEM Ambassadors will explain to young people what it's like to be involved in planning and operating rail services and designing future railways, trains and stations to help passengers on their journeys.

Rail Week activities can range from a 20-minute presentation to a 1-hour introductory session or even a 3-hour interactive activity challenge, providing between 2 and 5 ambassadors to visit a school.

By volunteering as a Rail Week STEM Ambassador you will:

- Play a part in addressing the skills gap in rail
- Help transform the image of rail into an exciting place where young people can have a huge impact
- Develop your presentation skills
- Engage and enthuse young people about working in rail
- Give teachers and parents a unique perspective on the world of work in STEM careers
- Make a difference in the local community



Become a Rail Week STEM Ambassador

The STEM Ambassadors side of Rail Week is being managed by our partner STEMNET.

All volunteers who wish to support Rail Week events with young people must be STEM Ambassadors approved by STEMNET in order to take part.



a) If you are already a STEM Ambassador approved by STEMNET...

Fantastic! Just fill in your details on our website (<http://www.railweek.com/ambassadors/ambassadors-signup-form/>) and your local STEMNET Contract Holder will be informed of your interest in supporting Rail Week. They will be in touch with you as and when STEM Ambassadors are needed at Rail Week events near you.

b) If you are not yet registered with STEMNET...

After filling out the form on our website (<http://www.railweek.com/ambassadors/ambassadors-signup-form/>) you will be invited to register directly with STEMNET as a new STEM Ambassador.

Becoming a STEM Ambassador involves attending a 2-3 hour induction session, passing a criminal records check and making a commitment to take part in at least 1 voluntary activity per year. Rail Week events will count towards this.

See the STEMNET website for full details about the STEM Ambassadors Programme:

www.stemnet.org.uk/ambassadors

In addition to being able to take part in Rail Week, becoming a STEM Ambassador will also allow you to access a range of other opportunities to inspire young people in STEM, as well as the additional training and support offered by the STEMNET Contract Holder in your local area.

Please note that the process from initial registration with STEMNET to becoming an approved STEM Ambassador typically takes 4-6 weeks, so register ASAP to maximise the chance of becoming approved before Rail Week starts.



STEM Ambassador induction

In some areas of the country YRP Regional Ambassadors are working together with the STEMNET Contract Holders to organise special STEM Ambassador induction sessions for those wishing to support Rail Week. Where these aren't taking place, you would be welcome to attend one of the public STEM Ambassador inductions which are held regularly.

At the induction you'll be given a great grounding in how to engage with young people and an introduction to some of the ways you can promote Rail in the classroom.

Connecting with Schools

STEMNET will be raising awareness of Rail Week amongst schools across the UK. Teachers who are interested in having Rail Week STEM Ambassadors come into the classroom will make a request on the Rail Week website which will then go to the relevant STEMNET Contract Holder. Your local Contract Holder will then contact you when opportunities become available.

Equally you would be welcome to contact them and ask for their support in creating an opportunity for you to engage with a school.

Running engaging activities

To help you engage young people in the world of working in rail we're developing some resources to help you.

We're pulling together some promotion materials, including fliers, presentations and key messages to help inspire young people.

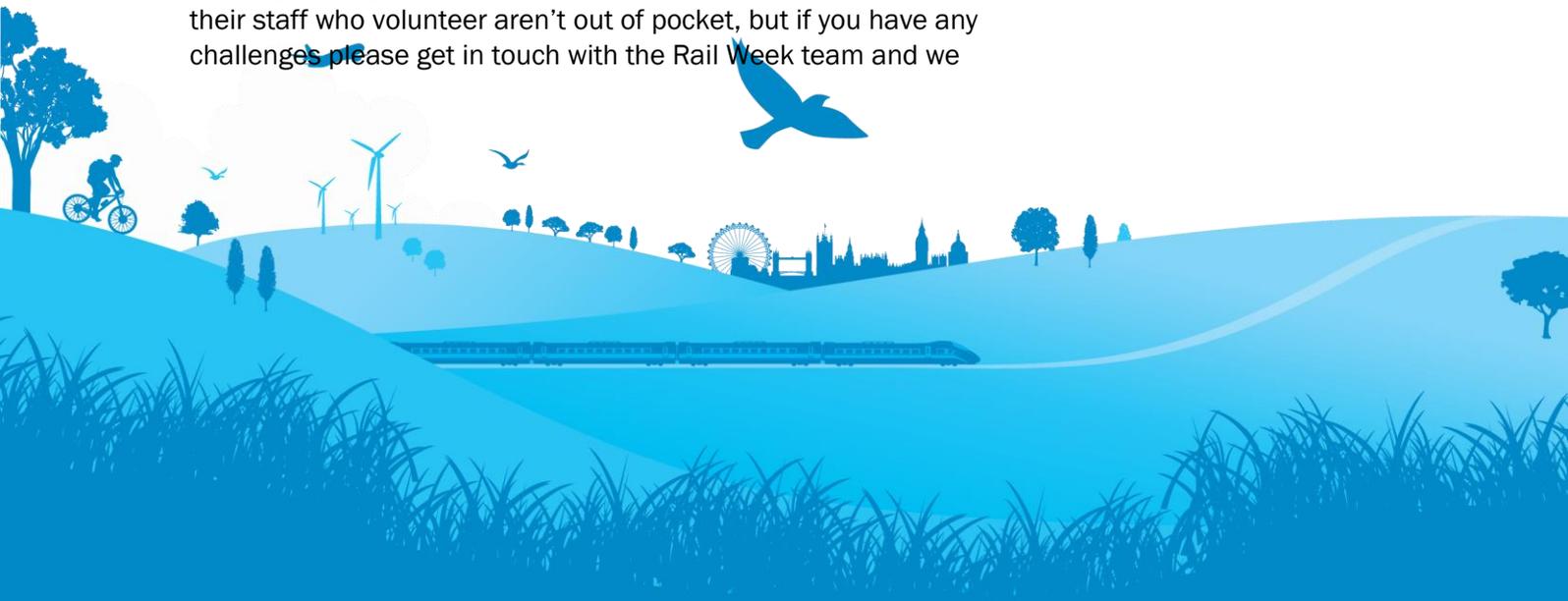
We're also collating and preparing classroom activities to be run by Rail Week STEM Ambassadors. These will be made available on the Rail Week website when ready but we'll be in touch too to let you know more.

Some of these activities will require materials to run them, e.g. building a bridge out of straws. We hope employers will ensure their staff who volunteer aren't out of pocket, but if you have any challenges please get in touch with the Rail Week team and we

Key contacts

May-Ann Lew is developing Educational Activity Packs
May-ann.lew@youngrailpro.com

Mohanad Ismail is leading on Rail Week Industry Promotion.
Mohanad.Ismail@youngrailpro.com



can escalate it with the dedicated point of contact within your company.

Social Media

Rail Week is promoting itself via Social Media and we have a dedicated PR team in place to tell the world about what we're doing in rail.

Please send any photos and stories to us via the following social media channels or email us at hello@railweek.com:

- <https://twitter.com/railweek>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/railweek>
- <https://www.facebook.com/railweek>
- <https://www.instagram.com/railweek>

Reporting activities

At the end of Rail Week both YRP and STEMNET want to know how successful it was and how wide the reach has been.

Please ensure that you report all of your Rail Week-related activities to STEMNET (you can do this via their database here - <https://db.stemnet.org.uk>) and that you share any good ideas or improvement points with your YRP Regional Ambassadors Manager.

Any questions?

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Hannah Jones, Rail Week Delivery Manager, at hello@railweek.com, 07739025753 and she'll help you find the answer you need.

Your YRP Regional Ambassadors Manager contacts are the following who will be in touch in due course:

- London & South East: Temi Afolabi
- East Midlands: Farid Omarzaiy
- West Midlands: Ali Parandeh
- Western: J Miguel Frade
- North West: Will Thomas
- North East: Jodi Savage
- Scotland: Nikki Anderson

