

»» Headstart

science, engineering and technology experience courses at university





experience courses at university

for careers in science, engineering and technology

Headstart is a well-established summer school programme whose aim is to encourage talented students to consider careers in technology-based industries. It provides an opportunity for those interested in mathematics and/or science subjects to spend up to a week at university, prior to making their UCAS applications.

Headstart students are in Year 12/Scottish Year 5 and make more informed choices about their degree course and future career as a result of attending. Treated as undergraduates while on campus, they meet senior staff and academics, recent graduates, and prospective employers.

How does it work?

During their time on campus, the students participate in design, build and test projects, practical problem solving activities, lectures and seminars, discussions with recent graduates, meetings with prospective employers and visits to organisations of scientific interest.

Benefits to students

Statistics confirm that after attending Headstart, students know which university meets their career objectives and degree preference. A choice of broad-based and single-discipline courses cater for every interest.

And afterwards?

Headstart students are provided with careers advice, guidance on sponsorship opportunities, vacation work and industrial placements. Sponsors include many large organisations and SME's, with exciting leadership and graduate development programmes. More information via hyperlink on the website Sponsors page.

Headstart *Focus*

A group of courses for students interested in one particular subject, for example chemistry, aerospace, computer science.

Headstart *Grapevine*

A course module designed as a showcase for careers information. Recent graduates talk about their jobs and what they have learnt at university and at work.

Headstart *Insight*

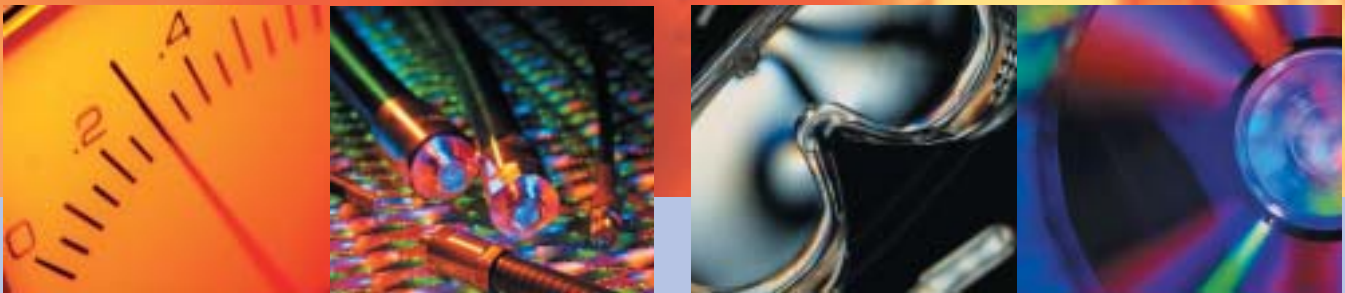
A group of courses designed for young women, teachers and lecturers who would like to find what it takes to turn an interest into an exciting career.

Headstart *Dragonfly*

An optional extra day at some courses for young women where they are invited to participate as role-models or team leaders for younger students.

Headstart *Spectrum*

An extra day at some courses for younger students to work alongside Headstart alumni from ethnic minorities, to show how teams benefit from cultural diversity.



Benefits to sponsors

Organisations supporting Headstart derive a number of important advantages. In addition to engaging with bright students and undergraduates, they can -

- make early contact with outstanding young people year after year
- identify candidates for industrial placements and work experience
- target bursaries and sponsorship more effectively
- raise company profile in the local community
- develop strong links with schools, colleges and universities

Statistics

- 88% of participants say Headstart strengthens their decision to study engineering
- 69% say the courses confirm or help their choice of discipline
- 28% are young women and 19% are from ethnic minority backgrounds
- 90% have more than 8 A to C passes at GCSE/Scottish Standard examinations
- 63% of Headstart students tracked through university are reading MEng courses
- 86% declare engineering or science-based roles as their first job destination

Register *online*
at

www.headstartcourses.org.uk



» Headstart

Headstart is grateful to the following organisations for their support –

Airbus
 AstraZeneca
 BAE Systems
 British Telecommunications
 The Gatsby Charitable Foundation
 Centrica
 Edmund Nuttall
 FKI plc
 GKN plc
 Goldman Sachs
 The National Assembly for Wales
 National Grid
 Merchant Navy Training Board
 Rolls-Royce
 Royal Academy of Engineering
 The Royal Aeronautical Society
 The Royal Air Force
 The Royal Navy
 Smiths Group
 The Scottish Executive
 Shell
 Thales
 Taylor Woodrow
 UK Resource Centre for Women in SET
 Women's Engineering Society
 Women into Science and Engineering

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