

## How can you get involved?

We're keen to work with businesses and research organisations to help develop this initiative further. We already have a successful track record of working with business to develop learning programmes that work. We know that by working with others, we achieve better results.

So, whether you'd be interested in becoming a sponsor or would like to contribute by offering workplace visits, support with mentoring for schools, or advice on the kind of skills and experience your business is looking for, we'd like to hear from you.

## Want to know more?


If you'd like to know more about how you can help the employees of the future to develop leadership and personal capabilities as part of their STEM education – and gain a recognised qualification at the end of it – please contact the Centre for Science Education on 0114 225 4870 or email Dr Lynne Bianchi (l.m.bianchi@shu.ac.uk) or Chris Williams (c.williams@shu.ac.uk).

As the CBI has stated, 'The UK's most valuable resource is the skills of our people – young and old', but if this raw material is not developed the future for our children, and theirs, is less than assured. Join with us and make a choice for a prosperous and well skilled future workforce.

Thanks to the Comino Foundation & the Specialist Schools & Academies Trust for their ongoing support with this work.

STEM Leaders  
Qualification

slq

A photograph of two young children, a girl and a boy, wearing blue raincoats. They are both holding up toys: the girl is holding a green frog, and the boy is holding a pink octopus. They are smiling and looking at the camera. In the background, there are other children and a woman, suggesting a classroom or school setting.

We face a choice. If we want to continue to be a high skills, knowledge-based economy providing real options for everyone, then we need to make big decisions now. These nursery school children will inherit the choice we make today.

Britain cannot hope to compete on cost with the manufacturing giants of China, India and South East Asia. Costs for manufacturing there are substantially lower and the profits made by their companies are already being reinvested in education and training. We are in a race – and it started years ago.

The CBI have talked about Britain's need to grow an ever more skills-based workforce with a healthy supply of science, technology, engineering and mathematics graduates to drive this growth. We need people with a range of generic employability skills and qualities which must include developing excellent project leader and supervisor capabilities. We need to build options for our people now which will enable this to be achieved.

That's where the STEM Leaders Qualification (SLQ) comes in. It's a brand new initiative, developed by the Centre for Science Education (CSE) at Sheffield Hallam University, in partnership with the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT) and EDEXCEL.

Offering a BTEC qualification with EDEXCEL, equivalent to a full GCSE, and carrying league table points, the new SLQ helps students to develop personal skills alongside their academic achievements for whatever they choose to do in the future.

The SLQ has already been successfully piloted and aims to provide leadership development and greater awareness of the value of STEM and STEM careers, along with recognition for this learning within the broader context of STEM activities, in and around the curriculum.

**BTEC**  
from Edexcel

**edexcel**  
advancing learning, changing lives



### What's different about the SLQ?

The SLQ scheme is based on the Personal Capabilities model which has been extensively researched and developed for a decade by the CSE. It is founded on three core domains of leadership – collaboration, self belief and thinking.

This fully accredited qualification is designed for secondary students and:

- motivates & enthuses students about study and careers in STEM
- supports development of essential personal skills and capabilities relevant for life and work
- promotes self- responsibility, self-esteem and self-determination
- enables & encourages team working and leadership development so important in business
- provides interaction with STEM practitioners, careers awareness and workplace experience
- allows credit to be gained from engaging with STEM initiatives, with an emphasis on project work, creative, innovative and enterprise development