More Than Robots



More Than An Adviser

Join our Community Advisory Board

FIRST® UK is a charity registered in England and Wales (1178433). Registered address: 7 Bell Yard, London WC2A 2JR



Shaping what comes next

Every season, young people, teachers, mentors, volunteers and partners make *FIRST*® UK what it is. You see what works, what doesn't and what's missing, often before we do.

That's why we're establishing a Community Advisory Board, so that your insight helps inform and shape the decisions that matter. If you've been part of our community and want a say in where we go next, we'd like to hear from you.

Ed Cervantes-Watson, CEO

Who we are

We're a robotics-based, industry-linked education and careers accelerator, equipping young people with the essential skills to engineer better futures.

> "Everyone should have a say in how things are made. The more ideas in the room, the better the end product is going to be."
>
> Talya,
> *FIRST*® Tech Challenge team member



3,000+
young people

500+
volunteers

92%
of Team Leads plan to lead a team again next year

91%
of young people say *FIRST*® Tech Challenge improved their problem-solving

81%
of young people say they are more likely to pursue engineering or technology

Why a Community Advisory Board?

FIRST® UK is growing. We're working with more schools and teams than ever, across all four UK nations, with more than 500 volunteers behind us. As we grow, we want the people closest to our charity to help shape its direction.

The Community Advisory Board gives our community a clear, regular voice in how we work.



Members will:

- Bring community perspectives into our planning
- Share what's really happening in schools and clubs
- Flag emerging needs, barriers and opportunities
- Give honest feedback on ideas before we commit to them
- Help us improve the quality, accessibility and impact of our work
- Strengthen two-way conversation between *FIRST*® UK and our community

The Board can advise on anything we do, from programme development, events and volunteering to communications, partnerships and inclusion.

Its ideas and recommendations shape our thinking, but decisions on strategy, policy, budgets and delivery stay with *FIRST*® UK and our Board of Trustees.

We'll always tell you what we did with your advice, and why if we didn't take it.

FIRST® UK is a charity registered in England and Wales (1178433). Registered address: 7 Bell Yard, London WC2A 2JR

Who we're looking for

We're looking for up to 10 people who know *FIRST*® UK from the inside. That could be you if you're a:

- **Teacher / Team Lead**
- **Volunteer / Game Changer**
- **Champion Organisation**
- **Alum**
  (former participant, 18+, in FE/HE or employment)
- **Employer partner**

One place is reserved for a Youth Representative, chosen from the previous season's *FIRST*® Leadership Award finalists.

You'll be:

Connected – you know our community and understand how the charity works

Honest – you'll tell us what you think, and say it respectfully

Big-picture – you can look beyond your own team, role or region

Open – you listen to views that differ from yours

Ambitious – you want to help us grow our reach, impact and voice

Discreet – you handle confidential information with care

Available – you can give around four hours per quarter

We want your own experience and perspective, not a view on behalf of your team, school, region or organisation.

Help us answer:

- What stops schools and young people from joining, or from coming back?
- How can our events work better for teams, volunteers and families?
- What would make volunteering and mentoring easier to say yes to?
- How do we tell our story in a way our community recognises?



Leading the Board

Once the Board is formed, members aged 18 or over can stand for Chair. The Chair role takes around 1–2 extra days a quarter.

FIRST® UK is a charity registered in England and Wales (1178433). Registered address: 7 Bell Yard, London WC2A 2JR



The practical bit

The Board meets at least four times a year, mostly online. Allow around four hours a quarter, including preparation and any input between meetings.

Now and then we'll invite you to meet in person, usually alongside a major event such as the Championship.

Term: Two years, renewable once.

Expenses and recognition: This is a voluntary role and isn't paid. We'll cover reasonable travel and accommodation for in-person meetings. Your contribution will be recognised across the *FIRST*® UK community.

Safeguarding: Depending on your role, you may need an up-to-date DBS, AccessNI or PVG check. All members follow our Safeguarding Policy and Volunteer Code of Conduct.

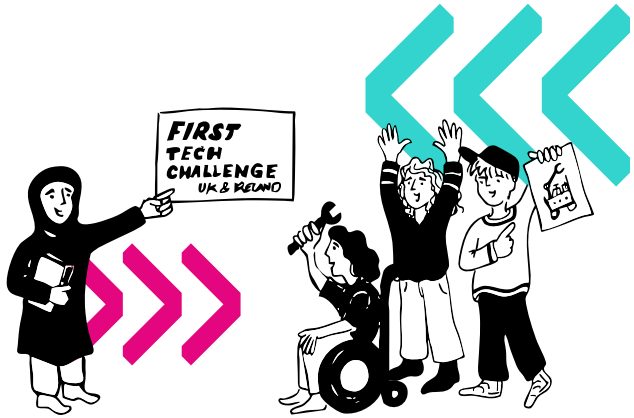
How to apply

Complete our short application form by **30 Nov**.

Click to apply

If you're shortlisted, we'll invite you to a 20-minute chat with Vicky Harrold, Head of Delivery.

We'll confirm the Community Advisory Board by **23 December**, with the first meeting in **January**.



Questions? Email **hello@firstuk.org**

Thank you for considering becoming More Than An Adviser.

FIRST® UK is a charity registered in England and Wales (1178433). Registered address: 7 Bell Yard, London WC2A 2JR