

# Become a *FIRST* UK Champion Organisation

Lead the charge in your local community and support a new generation of STEM innovators. We are looking for schools and youth organisations to **join us as Champion Organisations in our nationwide Hub Network.**

## Wait, who are you?

We're *FIRST* UK. We're a charity using robots, mentors from industry and epic competitions to make STEM less intimidating, more diverse and inclusive – empowering young people to make informed choices about their future.

Our flagship programme is [FIRST Tech Challenge](#) – the world's largest robotics competition for young people aged 12-18 who work in teams to design, build, and code robots to take on a global challenge.

## What's a Champion Organisation?

Our Champion Orgs are schools, colleges, and universities acting as beacons of robotics education and ambassadors for *FIRST* Tech Challenge UK. They form the cornerstone of our national hub network by:

- **Fostering community** – hosting meet-ups and facilitating collaboration
- **Raising awareness** – with other schools, youth organisations, learning partnerships, parents and local businesses
- **Hosting events** – including a half-day practice in December and, where possible, a single-day qualifying tournament in March – think STEM meets sports hall
- **Supporting training** – acting as a venue for teacher and mentor CPD
- **Sharing knowledge** – buddying with and supporting teams in your hub

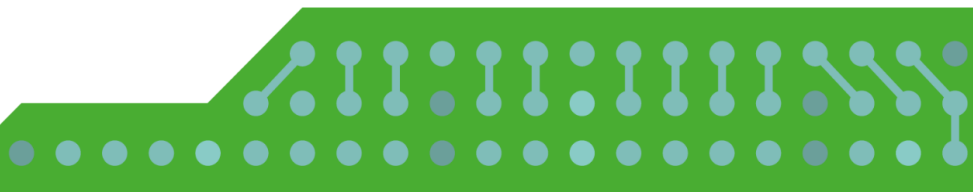
## Why would I want to be a Champion Organisation?

Why wouldn't you? In addition to showcasing a commitment to high quality STEM education and careers you'll:

- Embed a robotics provision within your setting
- Improve collaboration across departments
- Forge deeper relationships with other schools
- Attract more students and parents passionate about STEM
- Develop new relationships with local businesses and industry partners
- Increase access to fundraising, sponsorship and grants
- Improve careers advice and achieve GATSBY Benchmarks
- Generate media, PR and case study opportunities

On top of this appointed Champion Organisations receive:

- A *FIRST* Tech Challenge game field worth £2,000
- A £1,000 STEM grant for your organisation
- Waivered commitment fee for *FIRST* Tech Challenge UK
- Training and support from *FIRST* HQ to own your role
- Branding to present yourself as a More Than Robots Champion Organisation



# This sounds awesome, where do we sign?

Slow down! We need a few things from your first.

## Register your interest by 17 May 2023

Complete this short form to let us know how you envisage maximising the opportunity and impact being a Champion Organisation presents. We'll then schedule a 30-minute call to determine the fit.

## Complete onboarding Jun 2023

Once it's official, you'll receive training, outreach materials and support from HQ to hit the ground running. You'll also receive a Champion Org logo for your website, signage for your school and a fancy profile on our website.

## Meet the teams Sep 2023

You'll be connected directly with the team leads (up to 24) in your network from and supported by *FIRST* HQ to facilitate community support activities.

## Get training and support

We'll host monthly 30-minute Champion Org hangouts online throughout the year where your feedback and suggestions directly shape the future of the programme.

We'll cover:

- Programme updates and changes
- Best practices for supporting new teams
- Tips for hosting a successful scrimmage event
- Getting ready for qualifying tournaments
- Ideas for engaging with industry professionals and promoting STEM education

Champion Organisations are encouraged to communicate regularly with *FIRST* UK, and share their progress and activities.



## That's it! We're impressed you've read this far...

If you'd like to take on the title of a Champion Org [book in a call with us](#) to get the ball rolling. We'll be in touch with everything you need to make STEM less intimidating and inclusive where you call home.

