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 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.