

STEMWorks Launch Event

Well thank you very much Richard and good morning, maith mhaithe everybody it's lovely to see you all here again from right across the spectrum of schools here in the North. Great to see this, just this is the way Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths should be, interactive learning, learning from the experts. Great to see Steve Myers come all the way over from Geneva to give something back to his community. He was telling me that he went to St Kevin's School and you know it's great to see people like that because working in it and he knows what it's about and it's great for the young people to be able to interact with people like him.

And when we cool this whole thing down, the whole ring shrinks by 80 metres so there is incredible slipping in it. So during this time this is why the interconnection is probably the most critical part of the machine because during this time we can have breakage and so on.

Well I think not an awful lot of people who do science subjects will end up in doing the sort of job I am doing but science opens up so many possibilities for them we have physicists who end up in financial services we've physicists in Engineering, we've engineers who end physics so the subject is very, very broad, the technology in the world nowadays relies on people who know science and technology engineering so it's a very, very broad subject and it's a very good opportunity for having a very interesting and a very exciting career. I mean I have at CERN 39 years and I told everybody every single morning since I went there, I wake up looking forward to going to work in the morning which is phenomenal you just can't buy that!

Well the STEM Futures part of the project has a range of resources in there for teachers who are teaching STEM related subjects and that includes things like Home Economics, Employability, Learning for Life and Work and Science Technology and Design what they aim to do is to show pupils the relevance the things learning in the classroom have on the world in which they live in and the impact has on their everyday lives.

There are teacher resources in there so the pupils are able to engage in practical enquiry based learning where they're addressing issues such as nanotechnology nutraceuticals, transport security a whole range of new and innovative ideas and they are complimented with video case studies set in industry giving the real practical links and applications of STEM. If kids don't understand what it is you do with some of these sometimes pretty dry and dusty subjects when they are in the classroom and they don't understand how that follows through into the world of work then they will do the wrong things, they'll choose the wrong things and end up at a bad place so that's what we want to fix. STEM's absolutely critical but it's not a separate issue.

We have Science and Technology, and we've already got Mathematics already in the statutory curriculum so those elements are already there the promotion of STEM shouldn't be seen as being a separate initiative that lies outside that. What we are hoping to achieve with promoting STEM is actually to sign post those areas that are already in the curriculum and make them relevant then to our economy and to our society, make those connections.