

08 October 2026

Dear Families

Mid Sussex STEM Trajectory Challenge Announcement

We are excited to announce that this year's Mid Sussex STEM project is to build a trebuchet with a maximum height of two metres. We will start running this at Sackville School from November onwards. This year's challenge is open to students in Year 9 and Year 10, providing an opportunity to explore creative ways of building prototypes, working on team projects, and participating in competitions. Students will delve into the exciting world of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in a fun and informal setting.

Throughout the term, students will complete comprehensive projects that connect hands-on experiences to the theoretical lessons they learn in the classroom. Our aim is not only to deepen their understanding of STEM subjects but also to help them develop teamwork skills, learn about design and building processes, and bring ideas to life in real-world contexts, all while having fun.

By enrolling in this project, students will:

- Commit to attending all sessions
- Gain heightened enthusiasm for STEM subjects
- Enjoy enriched learning experiences
- Improve their practical, teamwork, and presentation skills
- Gain a broader understanding of real-world STEM applications and potential career pathways.

We are excited to begin this journey with the students and explore innovative projects together.

Project Details:

- **Launch date:** Friday 13 November 2026 in Haywards Heath, Council Chambers during school time. Students will return by the end of the school day. **More details will be sent out closer to the event.**
- **Day:** Thursday (weekly)
- **Time:** 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm
- **Location of weekly sessions:** T03 - DT room or M04 - maths room
- **Voluntary contribution:** £10.

If your child is interested in joining, please sign up on MCAS. Please note that spaces are limited and the project is very popular; we encourage you to register as soon as possible. All materials for the club will be purchased, planned, and built by students. We ask that students be committed to this project by attending each session and continuing all the way to the end of the project in July.

We never want cost to be a barrier preventing members of our Sackville Community from achieving their best, so we will fund this product for any student entitled to Pupil Premium funding. If you think cost is an issue and you are not eligible for this, please contact your community for support. Thank you in advance for your support and enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Havva Law
STEM Lead