



What is the CREST Award scheme?

- CREST is a project-based awards scheme for the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), managed by the British Science Association. It links the personal passions of students to curriculum-based learning.
- The scheme raises young people's (age 11-19) awareness of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) and careers linked to STEM e.g. careers in construction.
- CREST Awards are supported by the Welsh Government and the Department for Education.
- It is a highly regarded award scheme, established over 25 years ago.
- UCAS recommend that university applicants highlight their CREST award as part of a personal statement.
- Last year alone, over 30,000 CREST Awards were undertaken.
- More information attached about the scheme please see:
www.britishscienceassociation.org/crest

Why have CITB partnered with the British Science Association's CREST Award Scheme?

CITB working with the British Science Association have gained Bronze CREST Award accreditation for the CITB activity 'Sustainable Communities'. The 'Sustainable Communities' activity is centred around young people planning, designing, creating and marketing a sustainable housing development. CREST accreditation will provide:

- National recognition for participating students' achievements through a UCAS endorsed scheme



- Enhanced credibility for the activity, from the positive brand reputation of CREST among teachers.
- More opportunities for young people participating in activity to access regional, national & international events and prizes.
- Progression opportunities for young people participating in the activity to take their interest in STEM further using the higher levels of the CREST framework.
- Promotional opportunities through the CREST communications and the CREST Local Coordinator network.

The partnership between CITB and the British Science Association will aim to:

- Increase young people's interest and awareness in the wide variety of careers, skills needs and progression routes in the construction industry.
- Inform and educate young people on the key challenges the construction industry faces in terms of zero carbon, sustainable technologies and future skills.
- Engage volunteers from the construction industry as positive role models and inspirational mentors for young people.
- Increase the quantity and quality of talented and committed young people choosing Construction and Built Environment as a career path.
- Attract people from a wider variety of backgrounds to the sector to achieve a construction industry workforce which is fully representative of society.
- Increase participation in the CREST Award scheme.

How can employers from the Construction and Built Environment industry benefit from supporting this award scheme?

Through supporting this activity employers will have the opportunity to:

- Gain increased access to schools and young people who choose to participate in the CREST Award scheme.
- Engage with schools in a meaningful way. The activity has direct links with the national curriculum and often the qualifications the students are studying e.g. GCSE's, BTEC Introductory/First Diploma in Construction.
- Raise the profile of your company with schools, teachers, parents and organisations such as the British Science Association.
- Demonstrate your Corporate Social Responsibility and contribute to your Employment and Skills Plans (where applicable).



CITB Sustainable Communities CREST Challenge Employer FAQ Guide



- Gain publicity for your company which could include features in the local/regional press, school newsletters, CITB publicity.
- Feature your logo on documentation relating to the activity.
- Encourage a wide range of talented young people to consider a career with your company and/or a career in the Construction and Built Environment sector.
- Develop the communication, presentation and mentoring skills of your staff (this includes links to the CITB Construction Ambassador programme. Please visit www.citb.co.uk/careers-in-construction/construction-ambassadors/ for more details).

What involvement would be required from employers?

There is a wide variety of ways employers can get involved in supporting this activity which range from a short one hour careers talk to hosting a site visit. Some examples of how employers can get involved include:

- Hosting site visits/industry visits linked to the project
- Delivering talks/workshops in schools based on subjects linked to the activity e.g. sustainable technologies, careers in construction, the construction process
- Sponsoring a small final prize for the winning students plan/design
- Presenting CREST Award certificates
- Providing opportunities for follow up activities e.g. work experience, site visits.

CITB/the school involved would endeavour to ensure that any level of support fitted in with the availability of your staff.

**Many thanks for interest in this activity, if you require any further information
or would like to get involved please don't hesitate to contact:
local.strategy@citb.co.uk**

