

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to provide you with details today of an exciting new online <u>Science programme</u> that Pathways is running as part of the UniConnect Programme.

Pathways will be running a virtual, four-week Science Programme this summer aimed at Year 10 and 11 students. The programme is designed to provide participants with transferable skills and experiences they may have missed out on gaining this academic year, as well as providing them with insights into the Sciences in further and higher education. The programme will begin on the week commencing 18th July and will consist of 2 x 1.5 hour long, live weekly sessions.

Participants will work on a practical Science project at home throughout the four-week programme and materials to complete this hands-on project will be personally sent to participants. Upon completion, participants will receive a Bronze CREST award, which is a nationally recognised scheme for student-led project work in the STEM subjects. Students that would like to take part must be available to attend all sessions across the four weeks in order to achieve the CREST award, and evidence 10 hours' worth of work across the programme.

Alongside their practical Science project, participants will gain: an awareness of the broad range of career opportunities the Sciences can lead to, insight into taking a Science subject at further or higher education, and an overall knowledge enhancement of the subject area. We will be using a closed Facebook page as an online forum for participants to read up on this relevant information and network with current university students.

Industry experts will lead the live sessions through the online video communication platform, Zoom. We will be using the Zoom platform suitable for under 16s and enforcing all safeguarding practices currently in place for online student intervention. The sessions will be fully risk assessed (copies available upon request) and Pathways staff will be supervising the live sessions at all times. The scheme is completely funded by Pathways, including all subject sessions and materials to complete the Science project.

As the event is externally funded, student eligibility is determined by the Office for Students (OfS). Priority on activities will be given to students who live in an area identified as a Pathways ward (determined by home postcode). You can contact the team to organise how to find out who these students might be.

Students can apply using the enclosed electronic application form, to be returned to Pathways by **Monday 6th July.** Places are limited and in the event that we have more demand than spaces we make a decision based on the student's application details.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact me on the details below. To book onto this programme please visit: https://www.pathwaystohe.ac.uk/activities/pathways-science/

Best Wishes, Taylor Walker Pathways Project Officer T.walker2@lboro.ac.uk