UK Electronics Skills Foundation

# UKESF Scholar Outreach

# Delivering Inspiring Talks

The T&Cs of the Scholarship Scheme state that all scholars should help the UKESF in its work to inform more young people about Electronics and encourage them to consider studying it and pursuing a career in the sector. You are free to choose how you get involved with outreach activities – as long as you make some form of contribution at least once for each year of your Scholarship – but one way you could help is by delivering a talk. This guide will help you get started.

## Delivering a talk to promote study of or careers in Electronics

There are a few ways in which you can deliver inspiring talks:

1. **You could visit a school** – for example, your old school or a school with links to your university – either as a one-off visit or as part of a careers event or STEM activity day/week.
2. **You could volunteer to speak at a UKESF event**, such as Girls into Electronics.
3. **You could speak in a more informal setting**, such as a local youth club or group (Scouts, Guides, etc.), particularly if you already have ties to one from your own childhood.

## Tips for your talk

1. Share your own experiences. Talk about what inspired you to pursue Electronics, what interests you most about the subject, and the steps you took to get to where you are.
2. Depending on your audience, consider explaining what Electronics is, why it's important, and its real-world applications.
3. Use age-appropriate language. If you're speaking to a primary audience, consider simplifying your words – search for the most common 500 words in English, and challenge yourself to describe Electronics and your job using only these words. For example: *An Electronics Engineer uses science, maths, creativity and problem solving to experiment with the flow of electricity through different objects*.

## Talk Framework

- Explain who you are and why you're interested in Electronics, what ignited your passion?
- Explain your journey from sitting where the audience is now to standing in front of them today.
- Explain how what you are studying or working on could positively affect the audience's future day-to-day lives.
- If you're able to, take along an Electronics project to discuss and demonstrate – particularly if the audience is fairly young, as this will help engage them.
- Explain who the UKESF are, and encourage them to visit the UKESF website to discover fun and interactive resources that could help them to develop their interest in Electronics.

## Specific questions you could prepare

- What subjects did you study at school and A-level?
- What made you choose to study Electronics at university, rather than another Engineering subject?
- Which universities did you consider and why did you choose the one you did?
- What was it like starting university?
- What topics did you study in each year, and what did you enjoy the most?
- Where have you worked during your summer placements, and what did you learn?
- What do you hope to do in terms of work after graduation?

## Advice from Scholars



"Most younger students seem to hold a less intellectual perspective of engineering, so it's a good idea to correct this view. They also seem to be much more interested in what they will be doing, rather than what the course modules are – show them as many projects as possible. Your experience matters, so try to provide relevant personal anecdotes."
**Divyansh, UKESF Scholar**



"The one thing that I always notice is that people tend to be more engaged when I start talking about my own experience, and things that I have worked on, rather than talking about Electronics in general or projects/products that are already out there."
**Jonathan, UKESF Scholar**



"Ask parents/people you know if they know any teachers who could host you. Talking in a classroom can be more personable and interesting to the children than doing a talk to large group of people, as there are more chances to interact. And children aren't as scary as I thought – they were very interested!"
**Sam, UKESF Scholar**



"I brought in a finished project that I worked on, and passed it round the room so that the school students could engage in the presentation and feel involved. I also did a demo so they could hear waveforms through a speaker and understand how they linked to the shapes on my presentation slides. Avoid complicated maths and focus on the exciting learning opportunities!"
**Tim, UKESF Scholar**

## Resources included in this pack

Included in this pack are some supporting materials you might like to incorporate, as well as a letter of introduction for when you're first making enquiries and a talk framework with advice to help you plan what you want to say.

### UKESF flyer

This generic flyer is suitable for any age group and gives a brief overview of what the UKESF can offer students at both school and college level.

### Infographic

Our infographic provides an engaging and succinct summary of the Electronics industry and what it's like to study and work in the sector. It works well as an A5 flyer but can also be blown up as a poster.

### 6 Reasons to Study Electronics

Some fact and figures to support our 6 top reasons to study Electronics: help create the future, great prospects, high starting salary and opportunity to travel. Designed to be used as an A4 handout.

### PowerPoint Presentation

This template presentation contains introductory slides about the UKESF and what we offer, with space for you to add your own personal experiences and advice.

### Letter of Introduction

This letter of introduction from our CEO might useful if you're struggling to get a school or organisation to agree to host you for a talk.

## Get in touch

### Email

info@ukesf.org

### Website

ukesf.org

### Social Media

- LinkedIn
- Facebook
- Instagram
- X