## Why STEAM? Why Now?

The future needs more than STEM alone. That's why in 2021, Stemettes added the "A" for Arts, moving to STEAM. True innovation happens when technical expertise is combined with creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving – the very skills nurtured through the arts.

For many young women and non-binary people, these "A"-themed skills already feel familiar. By celebrating them, we build a stronger sense of belonging and open pathways into core STEM fields that can often feel closed off or unwelcoming. Including the arts challenges outdated stereotypes that STEM is purely technical, and instead shows how it thrives on diverse perspectives and talents.

The impact is clear. In 2024, 92% of our participants reported a better understanding of the importance of creativity in STEAM, and 78% felt inspired to explore careers that blend STEM with the Arts. Across all programmes, 85% reported greater confidence and 87% gained a clearer understanding of STEAM career options.

At a time when the world faces pressing challenges – from climate change to inclusive technology – STEAM equips the next generation to lead with imagination as well as expertise. With the arts at its heart, our approach ensures that women and non-binary folk are not only welcomed into STEAM but empowered to shape and lead the future.

### Join the movement!



#### Visit stemettes.org/change

This is where you join us in changemaking, spreading the word, and making a more just & equitable future.

#### Join our Newsletter

Join our 'Ways to Help' newsletter for quick, easy, and impactful ways to support women and non-binary people.

#### **Volunteer With Us**

Volunteer with us and empower the next generation of STEAM innovators!

#### **Donate to Stemette Futures**

There are several ways you can donate and support us. Find out more by scanning below...





SCAN ME



### **SİEWEİİE**

Ensuring the UK
Leverages STEAM
Skills to
Futureproof the
Workforce



## Proposed Recommendations and Calls to Action



Promote STEAM Role Models - We encourage companies to actively showcase STEAM skills by highlighting role models within their organisations and industries.



Recognise STEAM skills across the workforce - Ensure businesses internally acknowledge and celebrate the value of STEAM skills across all levels of their workforce.



Advocate for STEAM in AI rollouts - Call on the Government to prioritise STEAM skills in the rollout of AI opportunities, ensuring they are integrated into internal job frameworks.



Commit to sharing best practices -Pledge to develop, document, and share best practices.



Amplify youth voice in policymaking
- Ensure young people have a say in
shaping policies related to AI and
beyond, while supporting initiatives
that encourage STEAM subject
choices in formal education.

# The Roundtable at a Glance

On 11th February 2025, Stemettes hosted a roundtable at the House of Commons to mark the International Day of Women and Girls in Science and celebrate its 12th birthday.

Attendees explored the integration of arts into STEM, highlighting the value of creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. Topics included early subject specialisation, curriculum reform, and the need for more interdisciplinary learning.

Representatives from GSK, PA Consulting,
Standard Chartered, Quadrature Capital, and Bank
of America shared examples of mentoring and
virtual work experience. Members of the Stemette
Futures Youth Board spoke about barriers to
pursuing STEAM and called for greater support.
Dan Aldridge MP emphasised the role of
investment, role models, and strategic action in
levelling opportunity across the UK.





"None of us have the luxury of working in silos anymore" - Dan Aldridge MP

### What We Learnt and What Comes Next

The roundtable highlighted both the persistent challenges and emerging opportunities in STEAM education. Participants shared a clear message: the separation of arts and sciences limits innovation and inclusivity. There is growing momentum for more interdisciplinary approaches that value creativity alongside technical skills.

Industry voices stressed the value of early outreach, mentoring, and hands-on experiences. Young people highlighted the need for better support in balancing subjects and more access to relatable role models. Educators emphasised inclusive teaching and creative learning as key to engagement.

Next steps include stronger partnerships, shared best practice, and ensuring youth voices remain central in shaping the future workforce.