



# How to...

## Get started in your partnership

To get the best out of your STEM Professionals in Schools partnership, it's important to get to know your partner and explore the different ways you can work together.

### Facilitating partnerships

STEM Professionals in Schools connects primary and secondary school teachers and STEM professionals with a broad range of expertise and experience to enhance STEM learning in Australian classrooms.

Each partnership is unique as it's about identifying each person's areas of expertise and working together to bring STEM skills to life in the classroom.

### Developing your partnership

After receiving your partnership confirmation email, contact your partner via phone or email. A key benefit of the program is the flexibility to design a partnership that works for you and your partner.

Different partnership models to consider include:

- mentoring (for teachers and students)
- site visits or field trips
- running specialist STEM clubs or extension activities
- career talks and presentations
- hands-on demonstrations
- providing support for specialist projects
- online engagement e.g. video conference.

**“STEM Professionals in Schools enhances everything you do in the classroom. Year 10 maths is suddenly real world and not just  $y=mx+c$ .”**

Teacher – STEM Professionals in Schools

On the next page you will find some hints and tips on *Getting to know your partner*. We suggest meeting in person – if possible – to discuss the learning activities that will bring together your areas of expertise. This will also help to build your confidence working together before running your first activity.

### Support and assistance

Your local STEM Professionals in Schools Program Support Officer is available for advice and support throughout your partnership.

We conduct regular professional development and networking events and have a range of resources available on our website to inspire your partnership activities.

STEM Professionals in Schools is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education.

## Getting to know your partner

The following information may guide you in getting to know your partner, to ensure you have a rewarding partnership experience. Make notes of your discussion and keep them handy for future reference.

Like in all good relationships, communication with your partner is key! When talking with your partner, be open about your time commitments and working style, the expertise you are bringing to the partnership and importantly, what you want to gain from the partnership.

<b>Your partner's contact details</b>	Name: Telephone: Email:
<b>Partner's current role and workplace</b>	
<b>Preferred style of communication</b>	
<b>Availability (including preferences for days/times)</b>	
<b>What excites you about STEM?</b>	
<b>How did you find out about STEM Professionals in Schools?</b>	
<b>What do you want to gain from the partnership?</b>	
<b>Ideas, inspiration and any additional support required</b>	

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