

Response to: consultation by the Scottish government on...

Science Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) Education and Training Strategy (2017)

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The RSB responded as part of its wider work, engaging with the devolved nations on STEM education and training.

1. RSB recommendation:	2. Government's decision:	
Gender balance challenges are not uniformly applicable to all STEM areas	We will work with schools to help them recognise and address unconscious bias and gender stereotyping	
The invaluable work undertaken by Scottish Schools Education Research Centre should be recognised in the strategy	We will continue to support and fund the Scottish Schools Education Research Centre (SSERC)	
High quality initial teacher training is a key component of the strategy	A self-evaluation framework will allow universities to evaluate their Initial Teacher Education programme	
Creativity is vital to STEM and should be referenced	STEM education and training helps students to acquire creativity and innovation skills	
Experimentation and practical work should be recognised in the strategy	Excellent spaces for STEM learning will be included in new builds and developed through school refurbishment projects	
Greater clarity needed on the value of an additional STEM ambassador network	The Scottish STEM ambassador system will complement the existing programme, engaging with sectors that require more support	
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