

VN Futures School Ambassadors

Introduction

Welcome to the VN Futures School Ambassadors Scheme.

We want to thank you for becoming a School Ambassador and helping us to inspire the next generation of VNs.

The VN Futures School Ambassadors Scheme is part of the RCVS VN Futures Project and has been running since November 2019. You can find out more about the work of the VN Futures [School Ambassadors Development Group](#) and read the [School Ambassadors Pilot Report](#) to get to know the scheme a bit better.



As part of the scheme, we are working with [STEM Learning](#) (Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) to provide a recognised and robust support network for our ambassadors. The STEM framework will support you in your ambassador role and has guides for how to deliver talks to schoolchildren that will inspire them to choose veterinary nursing as a career.

As part of the VN School Ambassadors Scheme, you will register with STEM, complete the induction training, undertake a DBS (security) check, and join the STEM network.

Main aims of the School Ambassadors' work

- The main aim of the VN Futures School Ambassadors Scheme is to inspire as many children as possible to consider a future career in veterinary nursing. Some of the benefits of joining the scheme are:
- Become part of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Learning network
- Deliver veterinary nursing careers advice to school-age children
- Develop, with the VN Futures School Ambassadors Development Group, resources and materials to support the ambassadorial role
- Promote diversity in the veterinary nursing profession
- Develop materials for use at careers fairs, on online careers hubs and for dissemination to careers advisors

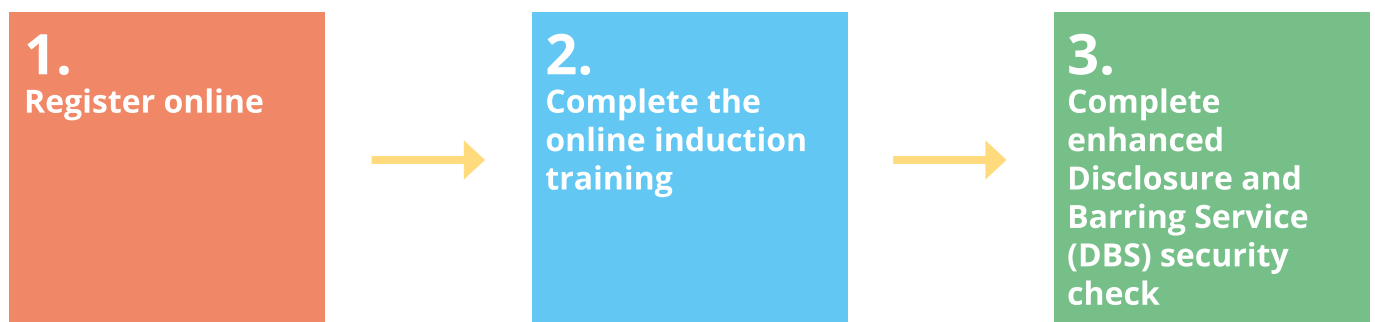
Registration with the School Ambassadors Project

We want to support your ambassadorial work, while also getting your feedback on the role to help us to continue to develop this important initiative.

Before you register with STEM, we will have asked you to complete a simple registration through VN Futures so that we have your contact details and information about your current role in the profession.

STEM induction information and registration

There are three steps to become a STEM Ambassador



Please complete these steps as soon as you can, so you can get started with your ambassador role.

Registration

Register through the STEM Learning website:

www.stem.org.uk/stem-ambassadors/join-stem-ambassador-programme

You will create a profile on the STEM website which will include areas of interest and careers activities you can provide.

Induction

This provides an introduction to the programme and guidance on working safely and effectively with young people.

Available on the STEM Ambassador website:

www.stem.org.uk/stem-ambassadors/training-support/induction

- Once you have completed your induction, inform your local hub by emailing them so they can start the DBS process. ([Find your local hub here](#))
- For online inductions – a personalised link to the DBS application (PVG in Scotland) will be sent once you inform your local hub

Enhanced disclosure check

An enhanced DBS check is compulsory as STEM Ambassadors work with children. Through STEM this is provided at no charge to ambassadors.

- The security check includes having your ID-verified. This is normally done through your local STEM Ambassador Hub.
- You will be sent information on who is eligible to verify your ID. STEM will give you further guidance on this once you reach this stage.
- For more information on DBS visit [**www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check**](http://www.gov.uk/disclosure-barring-service-check)

Once the process is completed you will receive a STEM identification card and will join the STEM network. As soon as you join, you will start to receive updates and information on STEM activities you can support.

Further training

STEM provides online courses which support ambassadors. They are all available for free on FutureLearn [here](#). You can work through the courses on FutureLearn and the additional resources on the STEM Learning website at your own pace and at a time that suits you. Although it's not compulsory to complete any courses, the resources on both websites will be really useful for helping to plan and deliver talks, so we'd recommend doing at least a couple of courses to help you with your role.

Voluntary role

Although this is a voluntary and autonomous role, VN Futures are always on-hand to provide you with resources and guidance to help you carry out your role, and you can ask us for any help or support if you need it.

Delivery of talks

There will be opportunities to deliver school talks online, where you'll be able to speak to multiple classes of children at the same time and opportunities to deliver talks in-person at schools, careers events and school assemblies. You can of course choose which activities you wish to undertake.

Next steps

Please contact the VN Futures Project Lead, Jill with confirmation of your DBS check number. She can then help you to get started in your ambassadorial role.

Need any help?

If you need any help at all during the steps above, please contact Jill at VN Futures.

Jill@vnfutures.org.uk

07867 301723