



LEGO League

## Working with FIRST LEGO League to develop digital skills

We know how important it is to knock down barriers so everyone can thrive, and one of the areas where we've been making an impact is in promoting tech for good, through promoting STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) via the FIRST LEGO League.

In 2017, we hosted the regional final of the competition in in the north-east of England, which challenges children and young people aged 4-16, to design and create robots using the well-known building bricks and LEGO Mindstorm Robots. FIRST LEGO League is not only about STEM, coding and robotics, but also promotes a set of values that develop skills in teamwork, problem-solving and communication. These are invaluable skills that prepare young people for success both in education and in the workplace.

Having seen the positive impact for ourselves first-hand, we decided that we had to get Sage even more involved in the competition. Just two years later, by 2019, we were running multi-day events across the UK, Ireland and South Africa with help from more than 200 colleagues.

It's a legacy that lasts to this day. Our enthusiastic and knowledgeable colleagues are having a real impact on young people's lives, inspiring them and increasing awareness about STEM subjects, mentoring in schools, volunteering at events and building stronger connections between Sage and our communities.

With funding from Sage, past regional winners have been able to travel to other parts of the country to compete – many of them travelling outside of their immediate community for the first-time ever, allowing these young people to expand their horizons.

## CASE STUDY

In South Africa, one of our FIRST LEGO League participants was awarded a specially created Sage bursary, which allowed them to attend Pretoria University.

We love being involved with such an interesting and inclusive education programme, which inspires young people to think creatively about STEM subjects and about the potential of working in our industry. We think everyone can thrive, given the right opportunities, and FIRST LEGO League is a great example of what impact we can have when we all work together for a better future for the next generation.



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