

Say hello to BrightSparks

A new programme for children from low-income families aged 8 to 13, providing up to 12 months of weekly after-school creative design and technology mentorship for free*.



- Do you know or teach a child with amazing creative potential?
- Are they ready to take it to the next stage?
- Could they join a group of like minded young people and start a career in the creative digital sector?

“ Backed and sponsored by the cities biggest technology companies. ”

We are now accepting applications for children on free school meals or that have families with a household income of under £24k p/a.

Go to <https://makerclub.org/brightsparks> to nominate

kindly supported and funded by





MakerClub

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Hello,

This letter will have been given to you by one of your students parents or guardians. They will be hoping that you will be able to put them forward for the MakerClub BrightSparks programme.

What is BrightSparks?

BrightSparks provides 12 months of free weekly after-school mentorship to children from low-income families in technology and design - for those on free school meals, we also provide a free laptop too.

We do this because we believe that access to high quality creative technology education can give young people genuinely life-changing opportunities for career and social development.

BrightSparks is funded by regional digital businesses that want local young people to get excited about engineering, design and electronics to ensure the next generation of creative technologists.

To qualify for BrightSparks, a child must be:

- 8 to 13 years old
- Receiving free school meals or have a total family income of under 24k p/a (we will ask for proof of earnings directly from parents)
- Keen to learn new things
- Be able to get on well with other children
- Thoroughly enjoy being creative

Why do we need to contact you?

Our application process only allows teachers to apply for BrightSpark student spaces. This is because we believe that you are the best placed to ensure that the child applying for a space fulfils the above criteria.

This process takes no more than 5 minutes. Just go to **<http://makerclub.org/brightsparks>** for more information, click on the link to apply and fill in the short form.

Once you have applied for a student, we will keep you informed as to their progress, we may also ask you to give us a very brief (5 minute) assessment of their general progress in 6 and 12 months time for evaluation purposes.

Who are MakerClub?

MakerClub is an award winning organisation dedicated to helping nurture the next generation of inventors, designers, engineers and digital creatives.

We run multiple clubs across the UK, but we're based in Brighton. Our sessions take place in real workshops, so children get access to hands-on technology like 3D printers and laser cutters.

All MakerClub staff are DBS checked and pride ourselves on our health and safety standards. Each week, over 300 children attend a local MakerClub to learn invention and design. We hope your pupils can join us.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact us on 0800 680 0130 or declan@makerclub.org, and we'll do our best to answer as quickly as possible.

Regards,



Declan Cassidy
Head of Impact
MakerClub