



Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency

# School and family events 2019/20

## Working with schools

From April 2019 onwards both primary and secondary schools in our target area of Mid Argyll and Kintyre worked closely with ALIenergy to give us another chance to play a part in the success of transition weeks for all new secondary pupils at high schools in Campbeltown, Lochgilphead and Tarbert.

Workshops we delivered in both primary and secondary school settings gave pupils a real sense of continuity, as did each pupil's use of their own personal STEM workbook. The workbook has been created to give pupils a resource they can use and reflect on at different stages of the project. This started with workshop activities which this year centred on the importance of science, technology, engineering and maths ('STEM'), their role in developing renewable technologies and how we approach energy issues at local, regional, national and international levels. Activities for groups to come up with a working design for a model wind turbine were challenging but great fun, producing lots of positive outcomes and feedback from pupils and teaching staff who took part or visited the sessions.



School(s)	Pupils / Workshops
Primaries in the project area	154 / 10
Campbeltown Grammar School	61 / 3
Lochgilphead High School	70 / 4
Tarbert Academy	21 / 1



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## A popular feature at local family events

Once again the summer holidays proved to be a great opportunity to take resources out and engage with communities at annual events in the project area. Visitors had the chance to find out more about the project as well as to investigate fun, free and interactive activities related to STEM from a range of science equipment and activities that are a part of our workshops. Up to date information and support around career and training opportunities for young people in the area and how ALlenergy is working to



support the uptake of these was also available. Making a second appearance, the dynamo bike this year meant visitors could pedal power electrical appliances, including an analogue radio (puzzling some of our younger visitors), and a mobile phone charger. With families and other groups visiting, Katie and Michael spent time with visitors of all ages and made sure younger visitors had entered one of the competitions which ran over the events in Kintyre, Islay and Lochgilhead. With all that the stands had to offer, ALlenergy was delighted to welcome a total of just under 550 visitors from the three events.

## Mid Argyll and Kintyre STEM Festival (or MAK STEM Fest for short!)

12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 was scheduled to see ALlenergy working with Lochgilhead High School, as one of the three high schools in our target area to host MAK STEM Fest: a one day careers event bringing together S2 pupils from all three schools and companies who need employees with STEM skills. As well as getting to take part in fun and informative interactive workshops, our S2 'delegates' were to get the chance to meet employers and find out at first-hand about learning and career paths in STEM related jobs.



Sadly, due to the impact of the global outbreak of cases of the coronavirus COVID-19, ALlenergy had to postpone this event. Our aim is to pick up on all the generous and positive support we had received in the run-up to it so we can deliver the planned event as soon as circumstances allow, later in 2020 we hope.

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