

## FE News, UK: Investing in Youth Programs Now Will Build the Workforce of the Future



“We must look to, and inspire, younger generations, who will inherit the future workplace, industry and technological innovation,” says **Vivek Daga**, Vice President and Country Head, UK and Ireland. “Technology is already ubiquitous, but there needs to be a concerted effort across the board to encourage the next generation to explore, innovate, further develop and apply technology.”

*Excerpts from FE News’ article, reproduced with permission:*

“The UN cites that young people (15 to 24-year-olds) are three times more likely to be unemployed than other age groups and are also ‘continuously exposed to lower quality of jobs, greater labour market inequalities and longer, more insecure school to work transitions’.



This disconnect starts at an early stage due to a lack of immersive approaches that give young people the hands-on experiences that engage, inform and excite them to pursue careers in STEAM. If this is not addressed, the skills gap will continue to widen, damaging businesses across the country and affecting the entire economy.

The businesses and organisations relying on a future workforce with STEAM skills also have a crucial role to play in the development of future talent. This includes supporting students – starting in their early years – to consider how they can work with data and think creatively.

Through our Outreach STEAM programme in the UK, we have inspired close to 200 primary school-age children on the jobs of the future. These disciplines ‘pull’ young people into STEAM careers by generating interest and confidence, rather than ‘pushing’ them to cover the basics in maths and science.”

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