

FOR LOCAL MEDIA ONLY

Mundipharma opens its doors to local schools to inspire the next generation of scientists

- Over 150 children from 5 schools will be taking part in events at Mundipharma this week
- Nationally, the STEM programme has been shown to increase young people's engagement in STEM by 90%²

Cambridge, UK, 12th March 2019

Cambridge based companies within the Mundipharma network of independent associated companies are marking science week by welcoming school children from across the county to its offices to learn more about an initiative that aims to inspire and educate the future generation by exploring the medicine making process.

The network's Science Ambassadors Programme, which has been developed in line with objectives from the national STEM programme (science, technology, engineering and maths) is now in its 13th year and this year alone, will work with approximately 6,000 primary school children to take them through a series of tasks including exploring the sensory activities of the brain and how science is applied to keeping people healthy.

The initiative not only looks to inspire children towards science but also aims to compliment education where practical experience of science can support a child's academic teaching and encourage stronger performance. In fact, 93% of teachers believe that employer engagement activities have a positive impact on children's academic achievement¹. Nationally, the STEM programme has been shown to increase young people's engagement in STEM by 90%².

Lisa Taylor, Mundipharma STEM Ambassador coordinator, commented, the Science Ambassadors programme enables Mundipharma to both inspire a generation of future scientists and to engage with the local community. As one of Cambridge's larger employers, we are delighted to be able to nurture school children's thirst for knowledge through an inspirational and educational science experience. This builds the pupils' Science Capital and so supports their development into science careers. These are our future colleagues who will help us to move medicine forward.

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About the Mundipharma network

Mundipharma is a global network of privately-owned independent associated companies whose purpose is to move medicine forward.

With a high performing and learning organisation that strives for innovation and commercial excellence through partnerships, we successfully transformed and diversified our European portfolio of medicines to create value for patients, payers and wider healthcare systems across important therapeutic areas such as Diabetes, Respiratory, Oncology, Pain and Biosimilars.

For more information please visit: www.mundipharma.com

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References:

¹ Elnaz T. Kashfepakdel, Jordan Rehill and Anthony Mann. June 2017. Making the grade *Does involvement in activities with employers impact the academic achievement of young people? Research Summary*

² STEM Ambassadors. *Making an Impact* report p.4 2016