



St Benedict's School, British Science Week West Cumbria

Morgan Sindall supported St Benedict's School, in Whitehaven, in celebrating British Science Week in March 2017. Employees from Morgan Sindall participated in a Year 7 challenge day which involved students developing their own proposals for sustainable colonisation of a new planet.

Pupils were set the challenge of developing the most sustainable options for water and waste disposal, energy production, transport, food production and construction for the colonisation of the new planet.

The project enabled the students to consider the links with science, construction and the environment. In real life terms this made them think about everyday things they may do in their day to day life that impact on our environment, for example, the impact of leaving a light or computer on, leaving a tap running etc. They also realised why the location of communities is vitally important. One group built their housing estate on the top of a mountain and quickly realised the challenge of getting material to the location and the drain on resources their design had.

Each team presented their proposals to business representatives, showcasing how they underlook research and developed their project management, communications and team working skills.

"I am delighted as Head Teacher to welcome so many local business people into school to take part in inspiring our young people as part of British Science Week. It is really important for St Benedict's to be involved with our local and wider communities with projects such as 'Destination Milky Way', and I am grateful to everyone who has been involved in this really worthwhile enterprise. Most of all, I am very proud of our students who have conducted themselves in a really positive way to engage with this project, and with our visitors." Ian Smith, Head Teacher, St Benedict's School.

"Throughout the duration of this project, the students showed a level of maturity well beyond Year 7, they worked well in teams and conducted themselves in a positive and professional manner. At the end of the day, each team presented their findings. Presenting isn't easy and being able to deliver with confidence in front of the head teacher, local business and peers was really impressive." Gillian Johnston, Community Investment Coordinator, Morgan Sindall.



Enhancing communities

- Support to Year 7 pupils to understand links between science, construction and the environment
- Promotion of good team working skills between students.