



HIGH SPEED TWO PHASE ONE INFORMATION PAPER

G7: EDUCATION PROGRAMME

This paper outlines HS2 Ltd's Education Programme.

It will be of particular interest to those potentially affected by the Government's proposals for high speed rail.

This paper was prepared in relation to the promotion of the Bill for Phase One of the scheme which is now enacted. Although the contents were maintained and updated as considered appropriate during the passage of the Bill (including shortly prior to the enactment of the Bill in February 2017) the contents are now historic and are no longer maintained.

If you have any queries about this paper or about how it might apply to you, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk in the first instance.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. High Speed Two (HS2) is the Government's proposal for a new, high speed, north-south railway. The proposal is being taken forward in two phases: Phase One will connect London with Birmingham and the West Midlands, and Phase Two will extend the route to Manchester, Leeds and beyond.
- 1.2. HS2 Ltd is the non-departmental public body responsible for developing and promoting this proposal. The company works to a Development Agreement made with the Secretary of State for Transport.
- 1.3. In November 2013, HS2 Ltd deposited a hybrid Bill¹ with Parliament to seek powers for the construction and operation of Phase One of HS2 (sometimes referred to as 'the Proposed Scheme'). The Bill is the culmination of nearly six years of work, including an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), the results of which were reported in an Environmental Statement (ES) submitted alongside the Bill. The Secretary of State has also published draft Environmental Minimum Requirements (EMRs), which set out the environmental and sustainability commitments that will be observed in the construction of the Proposed Scheme.
- 1.4. The Bill is being promoted through Parliament by the Secretary of State for Transport ('the Promoter').
- 1.5. The Secretary of State will also appoint a body responsible for delivering the Proposed Scheme under the powers granted by the Bill. This body is known as the 'nominated undertaker'. There may well be more than one nominated undertaker – for example, HS2 Ltd could become the nominated undertaker for the main railway works, while Network Rail could become the nominated undertaker for works to an existing station such as Euston. But whoever they are, all nominated undertakers will be bound by the obligations contained in the Bill and the policies established in the EMRs.
- 1.6. These information papers have been produced to explain the commitments made in the Bill and the EMRs and how they will be applied to the design and construction of the Proposed Scheme. They also provide information about the Proposed Scheme itself, the powers contained in the Bill and how particular decisions about the project have been reached.

2. Education Programme: objectives and delivery approach

- 2.1. This information paper outlines the approach and work of the Education Programme during the construction and operation of HS2. The Education Programme is already operational and has so far delivered more than 37,000

¹The High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Bill, hereafter 'the Bill'.

hours of educational engagement to 35,000 students in over 220 educational events.

- 2.2. The Education Programme is an integral element of HS2 Ltd’s broader approach to creating skills and employment opportunities. The Education Programme aims to educate and inform children, young adults, and their families about HS2 and the employment and training opportunities it will create and support.

Figure 1 – Education Programme objectives



- 2.3. The approach is to create flexible learning resources and engagement opportunities that enable individuals, schools and other institutions to interact with HS2 in ways that are most relevant and effective for them. The approach provides opportunities for access and progression from inspiration and awareness-raising engagement on to more formal, immersive learning.
- 2.4. The Education Programme is a national programme which nevertheless has due consideration of specific local issues and needs along the route. It prioritises

schools closest to the line of route, stations and depots, with a focus on schools that are in more deprived areas and score below average for educational attainment.

- 2.5. The Programme uses 'Education Ambassadors': HS2 Ltd representatives who are passionate about their profession and have volunteered to help attract the next generation into their industries. They support a range of events with schools to help tell the story about the diversity of jobs and skills that will be required to plan, build and operate HS2. In particular, they aim to stimulate young people's interest in Science, Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM), and related careers. HS2's Education Ambassadors are registered as part of the national STEM Ambassador programme.
- 2.6. Several projects are currently running.

3. Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Inspiration days

- 3.1. STEM Inspiration days are hands-on, all-day events delivered to groups of approximately 60 children, aged 11-14. These workshops are delivered by the Smallpiece Trust on behalf of HS2 Ltd and supported by Education Ambassadors. Students explore railway engineering through 'design and build' activities. They give participants an insight into the range of exciting and rewarding career options that high speed rail can offer.
- 3.2. 59 STEM Inspiration days were delivered during the 2015-2016 academic year to secondary schools along the Phase One and Two routes. 60 days are planned for 2016-2017.

4. Careers Education

- 4.1. HS2 Education Ambassadors can also support the delivery of careers education activities in schools. Working with a range of brokers, our employee volunteers have been present at careers fairs, Enterprise Days, mock interview workshops and networking events. We have also co-ordinated 'Careers Lab' workshops for selected schools where volunteers work closely with the whole year group to help students to explore their own skills and qualities. The Careers Lab programme was developed in partnership with National Grid and other leading employers, and is a Business in the Community initiative.
- 4.2. Support for careers education is being offered as part of the follow up to schools that have received an HS2 STEM Inspiration day, through liaison with our community engagement teams and to independent enquirers who meet the criteria. It is targeted mainly at students aged 11-16.

5. Work Experience

- 5.1. HS2 Ltd provides work experience placements for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

- 5.2. HS2 Ltd supports Social Mobility Foundation's Aspiring Professionals Programme by providing their talented A-level students with valuable work experience opportunities. Students on this programme are from disadvantaged backgrounds and would not usually be able to secure vital work experience, because of barriers such as being the first generation in their family to go to university.

6. Plotr

- 6.1. Plotr is a popular careers information platform aimed at 11-24 year-olds. In order to explain the project and the vast range of opportunities on offer to young people, HS2 Ltd has created an 'HS2 World' on Plotr at www.plotr.co.uk/hs2, containing articles detailing employees' career stories, accompanied by job information across a range of themes.
- 6.2. HS2 also has its own dedicated page for teachers (www.plotr.co.uk/hs2forteachers), describing its offer to teachers. The section focuses in particular on the range of curriculum resources which can support the teaching of wide range of subjects.
- 6.3. HS2 supports the Parents' Zone of the Plotr website which offers advice to parents on how to help their child make options decisions, career choices and prepare for the world of work.

7. Curriculum Resources

- 7.1. HS2 Ltd and TfL are working in partnership to develop a cross-curricular teaching resources based on the challenge of creating a river crossing, titled 'Collaborate Create Communicate' aimed at students aged 14-18. The project will see students take part in an engaging and challenging opportunity that will support maths, science and develop key employability skills, such as communication.. Having been piloted at the University Technical Colleges in 2016, the resources will be formally launched in the Spring of 2017.
- 7.2. HS2 Ltd will launch a primary school engagement programme in the summer term of the 2016/17 academic year titled 'Zoom Rail'. Giving students the challenge of planning, designing and building a fictitious railway, the programme aims to promote an awareness of the value of STEM (Science, Technology, Arts, and Maths) subjects in connection with future careers such as engineering, architecture and ecology. The programme comprises workshop delivery in schools close to the route and an online platform with 12 games and 6 career films. 60 workshops will be delivered in every full academic year, reaching up to 30 students and one teacher on each occasion. The online platform will be available free of charge to any primary school.

8. More information

- 8.1. More detail on the Bill and related documents can be found at:
www.gov.uk/HS2.