

THE BIG BANG HELPS BOOST GROWTH IN SUTTON...

The London Borough of Sutton, with Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) and supporting partners of the Royal Marsden, are working to deliver the London Cancer Hub, creating a world leading life science district. With this in mind, Sutton launched a strategy 'Sutton For Science Skills Strategy', to enable a future workforce and support its residents to develop the skills required to harness the opportunities created by the London Cancer Hub.

The strategy was launched at the London Borough of Sutton investor conference, 'The Code for Growth', to identify Sutton as the borough for science. Here's just a few examples of some of the activities Sutton is undertaking as part of this programme:

Big Bang Near Me - South London

Sutton is delivering the Big Bang Near Me - South London. Big Bangs are science and engineering fairs, supported by Engineering UK and STEM Learning UK where school children aged 10 to 18 are invited to participate in interactive activities, run by employers and STEM ambassadors.

To encourage more young people to become involved in these events, this year the borough is hosting its first ever Big Bang Family Day on the 14 July, which is open to everyone and completely free of charge. Activities will include, Lab in a Lorry, Science Buskers, Walking Through the Solar System, Forensic Crime Scene, lego robot wars, zorbing and more. The aim is to create an immersive STEM experience, accessible to all, with the hope of sparking an interest in STEM subjects and raising participation.

School engagement with Institute of Cancer Research

Sutton is working with the ICR outreach team to develop stronger links with the local schools. This includes supporting a quarterly newsletter for schools, reporting to the Head Teacher and Governors Boards, and running science related competitions with the schools.

STEM Ambassador Recruitment

Following the fair, Sutton will be running a joint campaign with STEM Learning UK to increase the number of active STEM ambassadors in the borough, in order to deliver a comprehensive programme of employer encounters for local schools. STEM Ambassadors could be employees, business leaders, or retirees who are prepared to give their time to deliver inspirational STEM encounters to young people, such as presentations, mentoring and careers talks.

