



Research and evaluation volunteer



Watch our volunteering [video >](#)

Overview

[The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair](#) is the largest celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) for young people in the UK. Everything we do is aimed at showing young people (primarily aged 7-19) how many exciting and rewarding opportunities there are out there for them with the right experience and qualifications.

- Where: The NEC, Birmingham
- Dates: 11 – 14 March 2020
- Time: 8am – 4pm
- Contact: Laura Mwangi, Community Engagement Manager (volunteers@thebigbangfair.co.uk)

Why do we need you?

The Big Bang Fair needs you to share your time and energy to help ensure our activities are facilitated to our visitors in an engaging and inspirational manner.

With over 80,000 visitors expected in 2020, The Big Bang Fair simply couldn't run without the support of our amazing volunteers. We need over 400 volunteers for next year's Fair. **You can volunteer a minimum of 1 day and up to 4 days.**

What activities will you be involved in?

This is a **public-facing role**. It is an exciting opportunity for a motivated individual looking to support a large-scale event within a busy and fun environment and team.

As a part of the research and evaluation team, you would be responsible for helping us gather information from young people, parents and teachers about their experience of the fair, their views on STEM education and their perceptions of engineering careers. Specifically, you would be:

- Roaming the show floor and approaching young people, parents and teachers to ask for their participation in EngineeringUK's evaluation survey
- Assessing potential respondents' eligibility for participation (e.g. ensuring the young people that take part are within our target age range)
- Administering electronic questionnaires on iPads, and supervising respondents to ensure their successful completion
- Giving out incentives for participation

What skills and abilities are we looking for?

Our volunteers play a vital role in making The Big Bang Fair a massive success. We are looking for volunteers who are **friendly, reliable and enjoy working with young people.**

- Communication skills to be able to adapt to the needs of the group
- Good interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage in a friendly and enthusiastic way with participants from a range of backgrounds and age groups
- An interest in researching young people and understanding their motivations, inspirations and interests
- The ability to manage multiple activities and personalities at once (you will be responsible for supervising the completion of several questionnaires simultaneously)
- Good organisational skills and ability to stay on top of tasks in a fast-paced environment (you will need to keep track of multiple iPads at once, for example)
- Good team working skills, and the ability to be flexible and provide support for research and evaluation colleagues as and when this is needed

This role involves a lot of being on your feet and moving around the sizeable show floor. If you have any questions about this requirement, please contact us as soon as possible so we can discuss any reasonable adjustments.

View our volunteering and diversity and inclusion policies [here](#).

What can you gain from this opportunity?

- Extensive networking opportunities, joining an enthusiastic team of people
- Practical and hands-on experience in an exceptional educational event
- Experience in conducting research fieldwork in a fast-paced environment
- Opportunities to engage with and inspire young people
- Develop an understanding of good practice in research

Most importantly, you will have a fun day!

Is there any training?

We aim to give all our volunteers a unique experience at the Big Bang Fair. We will provide you with training and support throughout your volunteering role:

- Specific online training for evaluation volunteers (1 hour, online)
- Volunteer **handbook**.
- **On-site briefing** on the day (30 mins, face to face).
- **On-site support and supervision** from the Volunteering team and the evaluation team.

What are the next steps?

To apply, please complete the online application form [here](#). If you have any questions regarding the role please contact Laura Mwangi, volunteers@thebigbangfair.co.uk.

