

A young woman with long brown hair and black-rimmed glasses is smiling warmly. She is wearing a white lab coat over a blue collared shirt. She is holding a test tube containing a yellow liquid. In the background, there is a laboratory setting with a computer monitor, a printer, and other equipment. To the right, a rack of test tubes with various colored liquids is visible. The overall atmosphere is bright and professional.

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# Light Your STEM Spark...

It doesn't have to be rocket science (but it can be!)

## Did you know that your prospects in STEM-related occupations far outstrips those of other jobs?

**It's true.** Employment in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) focused occupations is predicted to grow more than two times faster than the average for other careers.<sup>1</sup>

Ireland is a global hub for life sciences and technology, so STEM graduates have a wide range of industries and sectors to choose from.

The world's top ten pharmaceutical companies are based here, producing life-changing medicines that are distributed to millions of people.

Choosing this career means you can play a part in making a difference to people's lives worldwide.

The opportunities are endless, from helping to address climate change to developing new treatments for respiratory diseases, such as COVID-19.

**Do you want to make new discoveries?**

**Do you want an exciting career path?**

**Do you want to change lives for the better?**

## STEM needs YOU!

AbbVie is a global research-driven biopharmaceutical company with facilities around Ireland.

Research has shown that too few Irish students opt to study STEM-related courses at third level.

That is why we are keen that you know about the benefits of science, and why we want to encourage more students to study STEM subjects at second level.

Studying STEM subjects is about learning new ways to think creatively in finding solutions to problems. It strengthens a whole range of skills, including problem-solving, innovation, invention, logical thinking, and technological knowledge.

It can open up your imagination to endless possibilities.

You can be the next generation of scientists and engineers.

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# Do the Maths!

Here are three top reasons to study STEM:



**1. A world of job opportunities.** Whether you want to be a biochemist, an economist, a cyber security expert or a roller coaster engineer, employers will have to form an orderly queue!



**2. Help save lives.** From working on vaccines for emerging diseases to developing new cancer treatments, to ensuring sustainable development, you can change lives.



**3. Go places.** With top salaries and benefits, and progressive and diverse teams of colleagues working alongside you, you will have a really fulfilling and exciting job, and your qualifications will mean that you can work anywhere around the globe.

## Science on the front line

If ever we needed evidence of the key role that science plays in how we live our lives, this became clear for all to see during the COVID-19 pandemic.

From the White House to Dáil Éireann, the spotlight was placed on science and scientists to provide answers to so many questions.

Public health experts were called upon to describe the importance of getting the R-number down (reproductive rate of the virus) for members of the public. Scientists explained the work going on around the clock in laboratories to develop new treatments and vaccines.

Every aspect of STEM is at the forefront of research and development. Now, more than ever, we can see how the role of life sciences, and the importance of innovation, is fundamental to the future of humanity.

## Driving Innovation

AbbVie makes medicines to help save lives and to improve people's health in diseases such as cancer, arthritis and liver disease.

Our job is to come up with new ideas, discoveries and inventions to improve people's health outcomes. We're constantly working to create solutions that go beyond treating the illness to have a positive impact on patients' lives, on societies – and on science itself.

We also take our responsibility to our employees, our communities and our environment very seriously.

We work hard to ensure the long-term sustainability of our operations by reducing the energy we consume, the water we use, and the waste we generate. We continually invest in technology and infrastructure to reduce our carbon footprint. Our commitment to protecting the environment has earned AbbVie a number of awards.

While we are extremely proud of our record, we never stop looking and thinking ahead and always strive to do better.

## Fast Facts



**~50,000**

number of employees around the world

**~62m+**

patients around the world treated by our medicines

**175+**

countries where our products help patients



**2,500+**

employees in Ireland





# Parents, light the spark

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## The world needs more problem solvers. It always has.

One of the ways you can help unlock your child's potential to help make a difference for society is by encouraging an interest in **science, technology, engineering** and **mathematics (STEM)**.

Developing an interest in STEM subjects can offer access to a world of opportunity when it comes time for your child to think about their future careers.

## STEM is about creative thinking and imagination, so why not try out these top tips to stimulate better engagement with STEM at home...



**Tune in:** Encourage your child to watch science channels such as Discovery Science, listen in to radio programmes such as Newstalk's Futureproof, or go online and discover the wonders of the world.



**See the world:** Seek out the science around you. Catch an event at the Cork or Sligo Science Festivals or go on a day trip to the Natural History Museum or Dunsink Observatory in Dublin.



**Join a club:** There's an abundance of fun STEM-related clubs and activities taking place near you, and many are free. If your child is a fan of Lego, check out your nearest Brickx Club to learn all about creative brick-building, or if they fancy gaming, then join a Coderdojo club and learn all about programming.



**Do your homework:** Sit down with your child and support them with their science homework. It will give you ideas about how to weave scientific thinking into tasks around the house such as cooking, gardening, and DIY. This can help stimulate a desire for creativity, curiosity, observation, experimentation, investigation, and problem-solving.



**Think Ahead:** Ask family members and friends who may be working in STEM jobs to talk to your child. Seek out work experience opportunities for them in local companies. Visit college open days to help them identify their interests and passions for the future.



**References:**

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.qualifax.ie/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=623&Itemid=261](https://www.qualifax.ie/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=623&Itemid=261)