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Baillie Gifford becomes Edinburgh Science Learning headline sponsor

- Baillie Gifford becomes headline sponsor of Edinburgh Science Learning.
- Edinburgh Science Learning, the education arm of Edinburgh Science, produces various projects and events such as Careers Hive and Generation Science.
- With over 30 years of experience in delivering science education activities, Edinburgh Science Learning has reached more than 1 million pupils in Scotland and is a leader in the field of science education.
- Generation Science begins its spring tour on 17 February.



Samantha Pattman, Sponsorship Manager at Baillie Gifford joins P2 pupils from Victoria Primary School for a Generation Science workshop, Bricks and Blocks. Credit Ian Georgeson

Photo call images [here](#)

Edinburgh-based investment management firm Baillie Gifford becomes headline sponsor of Edinburgh Science Learning, the education arm of educational charity Edinburgh Science who also produces the world's first and Europe's biggest science festival.

To mark the occasion, Samantha Pattman Sponsorship Manager at Baillie Gifford joined Joan Davidson, Head of Learning at Edinburgh Science at Victoria Primary School in Edinburgh where P2 Pupils took part in a special preview of Generation Science workshop Bricks and Blocks: a hands-on introduction to programming. Using laptops and simple drag-and-drop coding, pupils learn about robotics, coding and problem solving.

Joan Davidson, Head of Learning at Edinburgh Science said: “We are extremely pleased to be continuing to work with Baillie Gifford who now become the headline sponsor of Edinburgh Science Learning. Their invaluable support will go towards our flagship education projects, Generation Science and Careers Hive, as well as enabling more primary school children to access the Edinburgh Science Festival at City Art Centre Open Days. It will also help us deliver our science education projects in the local community.

“Our vision is a world where the value of STEM is recognised and celebrated, in order to achieve a brighter and more sustainable future. With 30 years of experience delivering high-quality engaging shows and workshops, we are a leader in our field, and we are thrilled to have Baillie Gifford supporting us in this ambition.”

Samantha Pattman, Baillie Gifford’s Sponsorship Manager said: “Baillie Gifford is delighted to be headline sponsor for Edinburgh Science Learning. Headquartered in Edinburgh, the firm is proud to play an active role in its community by supporting a diverse variety of projects across festivals and the arts, education and social inclusion.

“As science, technology, engineering and maths roles struggle to be filled and the breadth of STEM-related prospects grow, inspiring young people in science has never been more important.”

Edinburgh Science Learning is one of the UK’s leading science outreach providers and delivers shows, workshops and interactive activities to schools throughout the year. Generation Science is the largest primary science touring programme and over the past three decades it has reached over 1 million pupils around Scotland.

Baillie Gifford’s support of Edinburgh Science Learning will go towards:

1. **Generation Science** – a programme that brings unique and inspiring science lessons directly to classrooms all over Scotland with highly interactive shows and hands-on workshops. The tour visits schools across Scotland from February to June each year. This year’s offer includes 10 shows and workshops, e.g. brand-new Creative Coding which sees pupils coding their very own dancing robot or Body Builders where students are taken on a journey through our bodily systems with colourful props and hands-on demonstrations.

The spring tour of Generation Science starts on 17 February and will see trained science communicators create interactive and fun environments in nurseries and P1-P7 classrooms and gym halls all over the country. Generation Science is a vital part of the Scottish Government’s STEM strategy for its support of students’ and teachers’ science education in the local authorities.

2. **Careers Hive** – an immersive careers education event designed to give students in S1-S3 a new way to think about their futures. It highlights the opportunities available to those who study STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths) through participatory activities, discussions with early careers STEM professionals and skills workshops. Careers Hive 2020 runs from 24–29 February at the National Museum of Scotland with a public open day on Saturday 29 February.

3. City Art Centre Open Days – on 1 and 2 April, hundreds of pupils from several Edinburgh schools will experience an exclusive preview of the Edinburgh Science Festival's flagship family venue ahead of its opening to Festival audiences on 4 April. With five floors to explore, this unique science playground offers several bookable workshops as well as drop-in activities, including ER where children perform a knee, abdomen or brain surgery, Ocean Constructors where they build an exploratory underwater craft or Buzz about bees, teaching all about the importance of bees to the environment and human existence.

Thanks to the support from Baillie Gifford, the Open Days initiative was introduced in 2019 and saw over 400 pupils from 8 Edinburgh schools enjoying the City Art Centre on 3 and 4 April last year.

4. Community Engagement - Edinburgh Science Learning's projects also include bespoke workshops and activities for various age groups which are developed in close partnership with community partners across Edinburgh.

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Notes to editors:

Edinburgh Science Foundation is an educational charity, founded in 1989, which operates Edinburgh Science's Learning and Festival programmes. It is best known for organising Edinburgh's annual Science Festival – the world's first public celebration of science and technology and still one of Europe's largest – the science education outreach programmes, Generation Science and Careers Hive and the community engagement work.

Its mission is to inspire, encourage and challenge people of all ages and backgrounds to explore and understand the world around them. As leaders in the field of Science Communication, the Foundation works year-round to create and deliver dynamic hands-on workshops and exhibitions and inspirational shows, discussions, debates and performances that continually push the boundaries of public engagement with science. Communication and engagement are at the core of all its work as it strives to ensure that this is embedded in all aspects of the organisation.

For more information about Edinburgh Science Foundation visit sciencefestival.co.uk/about

For more information about Edinburgh Science Learning visit sciencefestival.co.uk/learning

Baillie Gifford is an independent investment partnership founded in Edinburgh in 1908. The firm focuses on long-term growth investing, in some of the world's most exciting companies. With 1,285 staff and assets under management of £218.6 billion, it also has offices in New York, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Dublin, Zurich, Frankfurt and Krakow (at 31 December 2019).

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