Students’ skills put to the test

Budding engineers from a West Sussex school will have their skills put to the test by professionals from industry and education at an assessment day this month.

Under the Engineering Education Scheme (EES), a team of Year 12 students from Burgess Hill School for Girls has been working with engineers from Photek on a project aimed at creating an ultra-violet (UV) spectrometer.

The project was based around a UV photometer for testing the efficiency of image intensifiers. The sixth-formers had to design a vacuum chamber and motor mounting using 3D modelling software, then fit and programme the motor.

They will present their results at a Celebration and Assessment Day (CAD) at the University of Brighton on 16th April, when the project will be assessed by professionals from industry and education against a series of set criteria.

The Engineering Education Scheme aims to give students an experience of real engineering and to encourage them to consider a related career path.

Key skills such as teamwork, communication, presentation, project management and time management are also developed. A residential university workshop gives the students the opportunity to work closely with both their teacher and engineers from industry.

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