

npower inspires Swindon students to take an interest in science and engineering

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RWE npower offices provided eight volunteers to join 200 of Lydiard Park Academy's Year 9 students at the Enthuse day. The programme is designed to inspire and engage students aged 12-14 years old in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in a range of interactive activities designed to help them think about the impact science and engineering has on their daily lives.

The students were encouraged to think of ways to improve an existing electricity (<http://www.npower.com/Home/index.htm>) generation idea and product, or to design a completely new concept. They also took part in a series of hands-on activities, helping them to develop their engineering and science related skills and discussed the problem of how the country can meet and reduce the UK's future demand for energy.

Enthuse, which is part of the npower's Brighter Futures Programme, aims to inspire young people from their first day at school to their first day at work. This is achieved by helping them to develop their skills and knowledge to make their own choices and empowering them to achieve their vision of a 'brighter future' for themselves and for the environment.

Clare McDougall, head of community and education for RWE npower said: "I think Enthuse days are very important – it's our opportunity to give young people an insight into the energy industry and highlight opportunities available. I hope we have inspired some of Lydiard Park's students to really consider this industry as a career option for the future."

Pupil Emma Edney said: "I really enjoyed all the activities and have learnt about which careers are involved with science and engineering. This day has really made me think about my future and different career opportunities."

Head teacher of Lydiard Park Academy Clive Zimmerman, added: "The variety of activities gave the students an excellent insight into the diversity and challenges which might face an engineer. It was wonderful to see how students of all abilities were engaged in the activities offered. The staff and students would like to thank the people from Enthuse and npower for their enthusiasm and hard work."

Since the start of the Enthuse programme in 2007, the educational experience has reached out to over 7,100 students across the UK.

To find out more about npower's education programme and free resources for schools and community groups, visit <http://www.npower.com/education>.

ENDS

RWE npower is an integrated energy (<http://www.npower.com/Home/Electricity-and-gas/Products/index.htm>) business, generating electricity and supplying gas, electricity and related services to customers across the UK. We operate and manage flexible, low-cost coal, oil and gas-fired power stations - generating over 11 GW of electricity. We serve around 6.5 million customer accounts and produce more than 10% of the

electricity used in England and Wales. We are also on twitter - @npowerhq, Facebook and Youtube.

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