The Institution of Engineering and Technology

Futures Place, Kings Way

Stevenage

Hertfordshire

SG1 2UA

Dear Headteacher,

I am writing to request permission for the following student(s) to attend a *FIRST*® LEGO® League regional event on DATE OF REGIONAL EVENT:

STUDENT(S) NAMES

*FIRST*® LEGO® League is the world’s largest STEM programme and is delivered in the UK and Ireland by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). *FIRST*® LEGO® League is a real-world life skills programme, involving robotics and coding, real-world research and competition, which this year focuses on the journey of energy. Children work in teams to code a LEGO® Education robot, program it to autonomously interact with a series of themed LEGO® models to score points in two-and-a-half-minute robot games, research the topic of energy and create an innovative solution to a problem they identify. The annual theme shows real-world connection to relevant industry that students are encouraged to reflect on. They also need to always demonstrate Core Values – how they work together as a team and building important life skills valuable for the 21st Century workplace. You can find out more about what children will be learning by visiting the website [**here**](https://education.theiet.org/first-lego-league-programmes/).

The IET hold regional events for teams of students to compete against other local teams. At the event, the teams will be required to present their Innovation Project, Robot Design and Core Values reflection to a panel of judges, as well as compete in three Robot Games with their autonomous LEGO® Education robot. The overall winner of the regional event is then invited to attend the Great Britain National Final, held in Harrogate on 22 April 2023, to compete for a chance to attend an international competition later in the summer – you can see a snapshot of last season’s final [**here**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ORpGw17bBiA).

Some of these regional events are hosted on a weekday and students are therefore required to be absent from school for the day to attend. The teams will have completed all the above preparations and work in their own time ahead of the event itself, and I’m sure you can appreciate the huge benefit to their education by attending the regional event as a culmination of all their incredible efforts and achievements. I hope, therefore, you will be able to permit the above student(s) to attend their regional event. If you have any further questions, please don’t hesitate to get in touch and I would be happy to help.

Yours sincerely,



Lucy Owen

Education Manager, *FIRST*® LEGO® League

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