

## Engaging partner schools through an inter school rocket competition - Reepham High School and College

### Leading space education programme

#### Key actions

Four schools took part in an inter-school rocket competition using model rocket kits. The aim for each team was to keep their rocket in the air the longest.

Each team consisted of four students. All the schools were invited to enter two teams. The competition itself took place at our school, but each team had to build a practice rocket at their own school prior to competition day.

Using rocket motors, the rockets were launched in the school field and the time from launch to landing was recorded.

32 students from four schools were involved.

Quote by a teacher from a partnership school: "Our students (and staff!) thoroughly enjoyed the event aided by the perfect launch weather"

Quote by another teacher from another partnership school:

*"Many thanks for the excellent event (you will have to let me know how you control the weather!). My youngsters thoroughly enjoyed the event - and were telling me, on the way back to school, "if only we did ... or .... we could have won!""*

#### Impact on lead and partners schools

Teachers at our school have delivered the activities with the guidance of the UK Rocketry Association and would now be able to deliver similar activities in the future.

Teachers in our partnership schools have seen how to deliver this type of activity and are now better placed to deliver similar activities in the future and have my contact details and the contact details of UKRA if they have any queries.

Risk assessments have been written for our school, but can be modified to suit individual sites.

#### Impact on specialism

Links with partnership schools built

#### Top tips

We had to postpone the competition on a few occasions due to poor weather conditions. To make it easier to reschedule, we then decided to pencil in three dates and ran the competition on the first date that the weather conditions were suitable.

We used the following rocket kits

<https://www.apollomodels.com/index.html?Product=9eed2564ef149fbf96019c30d11fb84b>

A B6-4 motor will give a flight time of approximately 60 seconds if the parachute deploys (approximately 25 seconds if parachute does not deploy correctly).

## **The future**

We are now able to deliver similar activities in the future due to the guidance provided by UKRA and the fact that we have access to the resources required. We also now know what size rocket motors will give the results we are looking for.

Similar competitions can be run within the school or other schools.

Can organise competitions which allow the winners from each school to compete

## **Contact at school**

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