

**Specialist Equipment Supporting the use of New Technologies and
Development of Digital and STEM-related Skills**

In 2019 the Cheshire and Warrington LEP’s Employers’ Skills and Education Board consulted on how best to invest £5 million of Local Growth Fund in the specialist equipment needed to raise awareness of new technologies, support adoption of new technologies and deliver digital and STEM-related training to as many residents as possible across Cheshire and Warrington.

Seventeen projects have been contracted to reach 3,681 businesses and provide 84,287 learning opportunities. Equipment in some of the projects is mobile and can be borrowed. Collectively the projects will work with a wide range of residents/organisations including:

- Young people
- Schools, colleges and higher education institutions
- Youth groups
- Businesses
- Individuals
- Community groups
- Unemployed

Community Digital Learning Hubs



Skills - basic IT, enhanced IT, basic programming, digital graphics and basic software development ([link](#))

STREAM



Skills – essential digital skills, computer literacy, digital manufacturing, using social media, online banking, job search ([link](#))

IOTA (Inspiration Open To All)



Skills – coding, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, augmented reality, robotics, smart manufacturing, game design, digital graphics and user experience (UX) ([link](#))

Made.Digital



Skills – basic digital skills, coding, creative/design skills and 3D printing ([link](#))

STEM Centre / Digital Innovation Hub



Skills – coding, 3D design, smart manufacturing, virtual reality, augmented reality, internet of things and computer vision ([link](#))

Macclesfield College Digital Skills Hub



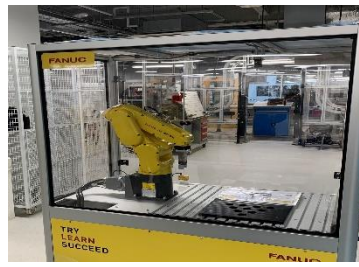
Skills – basic digital skills, agile project management, interface design, user experience, coding, cyber security, robotics, electronics and digital manufacturing ([link](#))

The Digital Hub - Digital Doorstep



Skills – 3D scanning and printing, smart manufacturing, virtual reality and augmented reality ([link](#))

The Digital Hub - Project 4.0



Skills – Robotics, 3D scanning and printing, visualisation, smart manufacturing, virtual reality and augmented reality and simple programming ([link](#))

Advanced Manufacturing Engineering Centres



Skills – programming, robotics, additive manufacturing, mechatronics, metrology, metallurgy and mechanical and operations engineering ([link](#))

Advanced Construction Training Centres



Skills – building information modelling (BIM), robotic surveying, drone surveying, laser scanning, 3D printing and 3D computer aided design (CAD) ([link](#))

Reaseheath Vertical Farming Centre



Skills – robotics, automation, LED lighting, with a hydroponic/aeroponic irrigation and nutrient system, and temperature control, sensors, data analysis and data processing ([link](#))

Reaseheath Centre for Dairy Automation and Robotic Milking



Skills – robotics, automated feeding and watering, coding, data analysis, data processing. ([link](#))

High Performance Private Cloud



Skills – cloud computing, high performance computing, computer aided design, visualisation, 3D scanning, 3d manufacturing & printing, data analysis and cyber security ([link](#))

Cyber Security and Networking Lab



Skills – networking, network security, firewall administration, virtualisation, programming and data logging ([link](#))

Yocto Digital



Skills – cyber security, cyber security mindset and networking ([link](#))

More information on each of the each of the projects is provided below including a description, the equipment purchased the digital and STEM-related skills being developed and a contact for each project. For general questions please contact sarah.williams@871candwep.co.uk