

14th March 2022

Dear POBL,

We are delighted to update you with the Spaceports in Communities Programme, running since the Autumn of 2019. This project was funded until March 2021 by the UK Space Agency in partnership with The UK Association for Science and Discovery Centres.

Staff from Xplore! (known as Techniquest Glyndwr at the time) attended a training academy in October 2019 and received resources to deliver Spaceports in Communities activities at events for the local community in northwest Wales. Plans were put into place with Snowdonia Aerospace, Space Flight Academy and Gwynedd Council to arrange for local school pupils to visit the site, but these had to be abandoned.

From March 2020 we worked hard to re-shape our programme in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, as our original delivery proposal became impossible due to lockdowns and other restrictions.

Significant time and resources were invested in developing and organising:

* Activities with schools nearby the Llanbedr spaceport site
* Resource packs to support families discover more at home
* Virtual astronomy evening
* Virtual sessions for youth groups
* Recording of the Destination Space show

It has been a pleasure to engage families and communities with the brilliant science content around the new spaceports for the UK and the satellites they will send into space. About 400 pupils in key stage 2 and key stage 3 engaged with face-to-face sessions in autumn 2020, and 500 resource packs were distributed via six local primary schools.

Although the Spaceports in Communities Programme has officially ended, Xplore! is keen to continue to engage and inspire school children, families, and communities with the UK’s growing space sector.

For further information about Xplore!: [www.xplorescience.co.uk](http://www.xplorescience.co.uk)

For further information about this programme: [www.sciencecentres.org.uk/projects/spaceports-communities/](http://www.sciencecentres.org.uk/projects/spaceports-communities/)

Destination Space family show: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9jbrg5xV9U>

Yours faithfully,

Dawn

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