**Release Date: XX XXX 2023/24**

**Local Students from LOCATION to compete in UKROC Year**

* Students from School / Club, location name are competing in UKROC year – the UK Youth Rocketry Challenge.
* The UKROC is the largest and only competition of its kind in the country.

Representing their school, no. of students from School/Club Name, Location are competing in the UK’s largest model rocket competition – the UK Youth Rocketry Challenge (UKROC).

TEAM NAME/ students from SCHOOL NAME will compete against other students in the region for a place in the national finals in June 2024 to be crowned national champions.

The national final champions will win an all-expenses paid trip to Farnborough, to represent the UK in a fly off against international teams from the USA, Japan and France at the Farnborough International Airshow in July 2024.

UKROC involves the design, build and launch of a model rocket, with the payload of two raw eggs representing the astronaut. The rocket must get closest to at least 820 feet in altitude within a goal timeframe of 43-46 seconds and the ‘astronauts’ must remain intact throughout the launch and landing. Rules governing the competition are altered each year to encourage innovative thinking amongst participants and ensures previous designs can’t be repeated.

ADS Chief Executive, Kevin Craven said:

“The UK Youth Rocketry Challenge is a fantastic example of how the aerospace, defence, security and space sectors can support and encourage young people into fascinating and rewarding careers in our four flourishing sectors.

“The future success of our sectors will be driven by a new generation of talent with transferable skills and qualifications in STEM subjects. UK ROC is the perfect opportunity to inspire young people to consider high-value, high-wage and high-skilled career opportunities in the aerospace, defence and space industries.

“The 11–18-year-olds who take part in this competition are unlocking their potential to kickstart successful and rewarding careers in sectors that are a source of national pride and critical to support UK’s national and international net zero by 2050 goals.

“I am delighted that the UK Youth Rocketry Challenge has strong support from across the aerospace, defence, security and space sectors and look forward to this year’s challenge being bigger and better than before – it would be a brilliant achievement for a UK team to triumph over teams from the USA, Japan and France in the international finals.”

**ENDS.**

**School Media Contact** (contact details of teacher / organiser sending the release).

Name

Position

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**About the Youth Rocketry Competition**

The UK Youth Rocketry Challenge (UKROC) is a national competition for young people aged 11 – 18 from any secondary schools, colleges, educational facilities or youth groups to design, build and launch a model rocket with a fragile payload (usually one raw egg). The competition is designed to encourage creativity, innovative thinking and appeal to young people interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) and inspire them to consider fascinating careers in the aerospace, defence and space industries.

To be in with a chance of winning, the rocket must reach a set altitude with specific total flight duration and must adhere to specific set rules. The competition’s rules and scoring parameters change each year to challenge young people’s ingenuity and encourage a fresh approach to rocket design. The international finals will be held at Farnborough International Airshow in July 2024.

If you’d like to find out more about the UKROC, please visit the website, and to keep up to date with the latest blast offs, follow us on Instagram and Facebook!

Website: <https://www.ukroc.com/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/uk_roc/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UKRoC/>

**About ADS**

ADS is the UK trade organisation representing the Aerospace, Defence, Security and Space sectors, with more than 1,100 member businesses.

**ENDS ALL.**