This year the Department of Engineering Science’s Headstart course for sixth formers, from throughout the UK, received generous support from international construction company, Laing O’Rourke. This enabled the Department to enhance its Headstart course literature, include visits to construction sites in Oxford and hold a gala dinner at Hertford College. These photographs give a flavour of this year’s course, which also included a number of practical challenges, a design competition, demonstrations, and team projects.

Headstart Course Manager, Dr Douglas Hamilton from the Department of Engineering Science, is seen here with Dr Jane Frew, Headstart Administrator.

One Headstart team visit Laing O’Rourke’s site at the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter in Oxford.

Headstart students, volunteers and managers are pictured outside the Department of Engineering Science.

The gala dinner at Hertford College gave students a flavour of the University’s architectural history and provided the perfect setting for a social gathering that enabled them to share experiences from their course.

At the end of the thirteenth century, Elias de Hertford founded Hart Hall on Catte Street, where the oldest parts of the current college, the Old Hall and the north east corner of the Old Quadrangle, are currently situated.

Pictured above are Headstart volunteers (from left to right): Finbar McLoughlin, Rebecca Threlfall, Bethan Haig and Ken Chatfield.