

PRESS RELEASE

Crypt School crowned Regional Champions in first student esports tournament

13 March 2018 Having battled it out at the regional qualifiers yesterday, it was Crypt School who came out on top in Bristol. Now the team prepares to compete in the Grand Final of the Digital Schoolhouse Esports Tournament, which is both a competitive gaming and careers education event taking place during the London Games Festival.

Students from Crypt School, based in Gloucester, joined four other teams from schools across the UK in Bristol, using Blizzard's popular game, Overwatch, to compete for the coveted prize of Regional Champion.

Tom Jackson, Beau Maguire and Jack Brown, Year 10 students at Crypt School, came together to form the victorious team. They commented saying: "We are all delighted by our victory. We knew the competition was stiff as other teams had ranked players, but we were in it to win it. We prepared a lot and our mentality was to try our best.

"It is such a great venue and the buzz was brilliant. Everyone in school knows about our victory!"

This event ran in parallel to three other regional qualifiers that took place this week across the country, and Crypt School now joins the winners from each to battle it out head-to-head at the Grand Final, taking place at Gfinity's London arena, 11 April 2018.

Organised by Digital Schoolhouse, the education programme run by the games industry trade body, Ukie, and powered by PlayStation, the tournament allowed students from the Crypt School to meet professionals in a variety of roles within the sector, promoting the importance of computing skills and the wealth of careers available in games.

With powerful sponsors behind the initiative and this event in particular, students and spectators will be given the chance to hear from PlayStation, SEGA, Blizzard, ESL Esports, Warwickshire County Council, XMA-Viglen and Creative Assembly, about why they are getting involved.

Susan Green, Digital Schoolhouse lead teacher at Crypt School, said: "Digital Schoolhouse thinks outside the box. As a teacher, it's fascinating watching students work on something they love. As well as a great tournament, students have found out about careers in the

PRESS RELEASE

creative digital industries. I am very proud of my students for demonstrating their skills in esports. They came away with a trophy, but also loads of ideas.”

Shahneila Saeed, programme director for Digital Schoolhouse, said: “Crypt School has been a Digital Schoolhouse since September 2017, so this will be its first year entering the tournament. The team has done well to get to the top of the regional qualifiers in Bristol, but there’s more stiff competition to come at the Grand Final in London!

“It’ll be a great chance for students to network, improve their teambuilding and problem-solving skills and learn more about the many careers available within the games industry. And we have some great sponsors behind us to share their expert knowledge!”

To register interest in becoming a Digital Schoolhouse, please complete the application: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/6CBPBR7>

For more information about the next esports Tournament, visit www.digitalschoolhouse.org.uk

~ENDS~