

Primary Science Network Model

What is a primary science network?

A group of schools working together to access Science CPD. This could include sessions just for Science subject leads or it might incorporate science sessions for other staff too. One option is to run one session per term for science leads and one session per term for other staff. Sessions run as twilights and can be delivered remotely for whole school staff or face to face for subject leads (it usually works best if this is at the same venue for consistency).

Why subscribe to a primary science network?

Network membership gives participants access to high quality, facilitator led, subject specific CPD. By collaborating with other schools, we increase the opportunity for sharing expertise and good practice. Science subject leaders have a network of colleagues, all of whom will be facing similar challenges and opportunities, and teachers can learn from each other. There are sometimes further opportunities for participating in particular projects and schools that are already collaborating together are better placed to apply for these (such as Ogden Trust and Enthuse partnerships). The CPD is agreed through discussion with your particular partnership so it is designed to meet your specific needs.



“Throughout our trust, the impact on our science curriculum is clear. By taking part in the network sessions the subject, the pedagogical and the science content knowledge of our staff has been developed, thus enhancing the teaching of the curriculum to our pupils”.

MAT Executive Primary Headteacher.

“Our science leads have developed their knowledge, skills and confidence throughout the network sessions. The collaboration with other teachers and schools has been invaluable, in developing and moving forward each school’s science curriculum.”

MAT Science Lead.

How is the content determined?

Working in collaboration with the Science subject leads to undertake a needs analysis, then agreeing what the sessions will cover.

We have two options for whole staff.

- Core skills - covers Linking science with English, Linking science with Maths and Assessment
 - Subject Knowledge - focuses on specific topics, Forces, Materials, Plants and Animals.
- We tailor the programme to fit your particular needs and include other stakeholders such as STEM ambassadors to enhance the experience.

Who attends?

The subject leaders attend the termly sessions; the staff sessions are open to all other teachers, though we may need to limit numbers per school and some sessions may not be relevant for all. For example, a Forces session will only be relevant to those teachers covering this part of the curriculum.

Who delivers?

We have a range of experienced and expert facilitators, accredited by STEM Learning. We collaborate with other organisations such as IOP, RSC and STEM Ambassador Hubs.. We are also always looking for new facilitators, so it may be that there are teachers within the network who are interested in being trained as facilitators for future delivery

Schedule

| | Subject leader | Core Skills | Subject Knowledge |
|----------|----------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Autumn 1 | Session 1 | Linking Science and English | |
| Autumn 2 | | | Forces - Teaching the tricky bits and misconceptions |
| Spring 1 | Session 2 | Linking Science and Maths | |
| Spring 2 | | | Materials - Ideas for practical and covering misconceptions |
| Summer 1 | Session 3 | Assessment | |
| Summer 2 | | | Plants & animals - Teaching the tricky bits and misconceptions |

Costs

Subject leader network £225 per school*

Add on the core skills or subject knowledge package for a total cost of £300

Add on both core skills & subject knowledge for a total of £400

*Minimum numbers may apply.