



Oxfordshire and Reading Science Learning Partnership Newsletter Secondary February 2022

About Us: We are the local branch of STEM Learning, the largest provider of STEM education and careers support to schools and colleges, whose **vision is to achieve a world-leading STEM education for all young people** across the UK.

The Oxfordshire Science Learning Partnership (SLP) is based at Oxford Spires Academy in the heart of the city. We combine local expertise in science, teaching and learning to facilitate networks, communication, CPD, and school-to-school support. We work closely with primary and secondary schools across the region as well as local and national organisations such as OTSA, Science Oxford, Rutherford Appleton Labs, Ogden Trust, OUMNH, IOP and other local partners with cutting-edge expertise in science.

British Science Week

2022

11-20 March

<https://www.britishscienceweek.org/>

Dear Heads of Science

I hope you are all well, this term seems to be flying by and busier than ever. I am writing to let you know about subsidised bespoke support we are offering either as school-to-school support which works out at £87.50 per day, or as bespoke training for your department e.g., in a department meeting for as little as £50 per hour for the whole department. This is because available bursary money needs to be spent before the end of March as the new DfE contract will start in April – we can therefore offer this for the first few schools that sign up. Further details are below -scroll down.

I also wanted to let you know about the next online Heads of Science meeting on 17th Feb, which will involve some discussion of the February 7th exam board announcement on topics for assessments – please click below to book

Thursday 17th February 4-5.30pm online, FREE

<https://www.stem.org.uk/cpd/506913/subject-leaders-network-meeting>

Finally, a reminder that our Secondary conference is taking place on Friday 4th March at RAL – we have a keynote from Frank Close, Professor Emeritus of Theoretical Physics at Oxford University who has been, among other things, Vice President of the British Association for Advancement of Science, Head of Communications at CERN and has also written several popular science books.

In addition, we have workshops involving tours of ISIS and Diamond, teaching physics with games, sequencing practical and maths skills in science, a James Webb Space Telescope workshop and many many more – booking link below, we are intending this to be face to face but may move it online depending on the Covid situation locally, please encourage a member of your department to sign up

Secondary Science conference Friday 4th March £99* 9.30 till 3.30pm

<https://www.stem.org.uk/cpd/504114/secondary-science-cpd-conference>

*A bursary may be available to cover some of the cost of this conference

Run by Oxford Spires Academy

Glanville Road

Oxford OX4 2AU

Strategic Partners Science Oxford, OTSA



School to school support

Oxfordshire and Reading SLP are offering secondary schools an opportunity for some school-to-school support, bespoke coaching, and consultancy from our trained and experienced facilitators, similar to the service previously offered by SLEs through Teaching School Alliances. This would be by arrangement and could include a science subject review, curriculum map analysis or bespoke coaching or mentoring – or a combination of these.

We are trialling this at a reduced rate before the end of March to determine the level of need for this sort of support –there is a bursary to cover 75% of the costs, meaning that this would end up costing **only £87.50 for a day of support** (£350 cost with £262.50 repaid to school after the event) for the first 4 schools to sign up to this – it will be possible to arrange a date to suit you which can be after the end of March.

Please contact chamnett@spires.anthemtrust.uk to find out more and arrange a date, and/or sign up at the link here <https://www.stem.org.uk/cpd/508526/bespoke-consultancy-school-school-support>

Department training

We are also offering departmental CPD - a bespoke department meeting with training of your choice that can be done remotely or face to face, again using the bursary to help fund this – the bursary funding needs to be used before the end of March, so we are keen to make use of it. This would mean that a **bespoke department meeting CPD session would cost as little as £50 for an hour for your whole department** (£200 with a bursary of £150 paid back to your school) – again the first few schools who commit to this will be able to get the bursary.

If you are interested in arranging this, please contact me asap on chamnett@spires.anthemtrust.uk

March 2022

Secondary Science CPD Conference Friday 4th March 2022, 9.00am-3.30pm.

Rutherford Appleton Laboratories. **£99**

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Booking link for

<https://www.stem.org.uk/cpd/504114/secondary-science-cpd-conference>

Secondary A Level Chemistry SCITT starting on Thursday 10th March 2022, VIRTUAL **£50**



We can support you in identifying the CPD support that you need, provide CPD activity directly from our programme of courses, or work with you to tailor the content to meet your requirements.

Secondary A Level Chemistry	10 March 2022	14.00-15.00
Secondary A Level Chemistry	07 April 2022	15.30-17.00

Booking link for **RM298 C10**

<https://www.stem.org.uk/cpd/507099/secondary-level-chemistry-scitt>

Behaviour management in science starting Tuesday 8th March 2022, F2F **£125**

During this training you will look at how you can develop your classroom style with strategies to create a positive learning environment: helping to encourage all students to engage with science and make progress in their learning.

You will discuss ways you can react to common (and uncommon) examples of misbehaviour to try to avoid unnecessary confrontation and return to learning.

Students have a unique challenge in their science lessons: they require high levels of literacy and numeracy skills but will also need to manipulate and learn from practical activities. You will see how to manage the challenging situations that may arise because of the range of potential distractions and hazards in a science laboratory.

The course pulls together information and ideas from a wide variety of sources and links to the teacher-specific recommendations from the Improving Behaviour in Schools Guidance Report (Education Endowment Foundation, 2019).

Behaviour Management in Science (Session 1)	08 March 2022	13:00-16:00	Kendrick School
Behaviour Management in Science (Session 2)	29 March 2022	13:00-16:00	Kendrick School

Booking link for **RM222 CR01**

<https://www.stem.org.uk/cpd/507100/behaviour-management-science>

Biology subject knowledge enhancement for non-specialists Virtual **£65**

1. Biology Subject Knowledge Enhancement for Non-Specialists	16 March 2022	15:30-16:30
2. Biology Subject Knowledge Enhancement for Non-Specialists	07 April 2022	15:30-17:00

Run by Oxford Spires Academy
Glanville Road
Oxford OX4 2AU
Strategic Partners Science Oxford, OTSA



This course will provide subject knowledge to help in planning and teaching biology for Key Stage 4 (Coordinated Science and Triple Science) with a focus on the genome, genes and gene expression and cell division. Develop your biology teaching with the tools and confidence to plan and teach effectively, engaging your students and supporting their achievement and attainment. You will be supported to find ways to enhance students' learning skills. You will explore ways of building student understanding, taking account of preconceptions, misconceptions, and common issues in teaching these biology concepts.

Booking link for **RX008 MC01**

<https://www.stem.org.uk/cpd/505583/biology-subject-knowledge-enhancement-non-specialists>

Subscriptions

Oxfordshire and Reading SLP Secondary Science Annual Subscription

Our subscription model is designed to meet the varying needs of secondary schools in the county and to deliver high quality CPD and coaching based on subject expertise and local knowledge. The model gives superb value for money and encourages science departments which have become isolated due to budget constraints to share best practice with other local schools. Our aim is to continue to build a really effective local network which supports all schools, drives improvement, and minimises workload. All the networks and CPD we run have been consistently well evaluated by participants, with 99% saying that the course or network met their needs, and we always aim to be responsive to local and contemporary needs. We have also run a variety of online CPD during lockdown to meet local needs and will continue to run both face to face and virtual events. Depending on the circumstances, courses for your subscription package can be remote or face to face as appropriate, and the package can be adapted to suit your needs – just get in touch to tell us what you need, and we can adjust the package accordingly.

Some quotes from recent participants

“Wonderful and welcoming people. Really enjoyed my day learning with you!”

“Nice to meet likeminded people with the same issues”.

“Really useful to get money saving tips, some brilliant ideas to take away”

The descriptions are outlines of what could be included at each level; this can be adapted to the needs of individual schools

Bronze – a basic package giving you some network time and individual coaching and training as needed, this could include:

- Coaching discussion and action plan (remote or face to face)
- Bespoke set of online STEM Learning CPD recommended by coach
- 3 network meetings per year (e.g., heads of science days, technician network meetings, conference, remote or face to face as needed)



- 1 bespoke science twilight for your department (up to 3 hours) or 2 department meetings (up to 1.5 hours each) on topics chosen by HOS with coach advice- these can be done remotely or if restrictions ease, face to face)
- Progress phone call or meeting during the year to review and adjust and adapt the plan if needed

Total value £650

Subscription price £345 - sign up [here](#)

Silver – a medium package for those with one or two NQTs wishing to expand their involvement in local networks, this could include

- Coaching discussion and action plan
- Bespoke set of online STEM Learning CPD recommended by coach
- 1 place at the Science NQT training package– three days over the year (remote offer gives the equivalent of 3 days but run remotely)
- 2 places at 3 network meetings per year (e.g., heads of science days, technician network meetings, conference)
- 1 bespoke science twilight for your department (up to 3 hours) AND one department meetings (up to 1.5 hours) on topics chosen by HOS with coach advice (remote or face to face)
- One free place on SLP CPD running this year (currently most is scheduled as remote but may be updated)
- Progress phone call or meeting during the year to review and adjust and adapt the plan if needed

Total value £980

Subscription price £645 – sign up [here](#)

Gold – ideal for schools with several NQTs and/or larger departments who would like some individually tailored training for their school which could be arranged on an INSET day to minimise cover costs, this could include

- Coaching discussion and action plan
- Bespoke set of online STEM Learning CPD recommended by coach
- 2 places at the Science NQT training package– three days over the year, additional teachers at 50% discount, scheduled as remote at the moment
- 2 places at set of 3 network meetings per year (e.g., heads of science days, technician network meetings, triple science network, conference) (these are currently scheduled to be remote but may be switched to face to face if restrictions allow)
- 1 bespoke science twilight for your department (up to 3 hours) AND 2 department meetings (up to 1.5 hours each) on topics chosen by HOS with coach advice
- Free day of CPD of your choice run at your school or 3 free places on SLP CPD running this year (remote or face to face)
- Progress phone call or meeting during the year to review and adjust and adapt the plan if needed

Total value £1550

Subscription price £995 – sign up [here](#)

Please contact us to discuss how we can meet the science training needs for your department

Run by Oxford Spires Academy
Glanville Road
Oxford OX4 2AU
Strategic Partners Science Oxford, OTSA



For more information, please contact chamnett@spires.anthemtrust.uk

Contact Us:

Claire Hamnett is the SLP Lead for Oxfordshire, she is a Physics teacher with over twenty years' experience who works as a STEM Consultant and Specialist Leader in Education as well as teaching – you can contact her on CHamnett@spires.anthemtrust.uk

Beks Bartlett is the assistant SLP Lead for Oxfordshire, she is a teacher with 8 years' experience, across Science and Physical Education and 6 years working with ITT students- you can contact her on RBartlett@spires.anthemtrust.uk

Jackie Merritt is the Lead SLP administrator she is a Senior Science Technician with over twenty years' experience – you can contact her on JMerritt@spires.anthemtrust.uk



[@OxfordSlp](https://twitter.com/OxfordSlp)

Cancellations

- 1 week notice no fee applies.
- Short notice 50% fee applies.
- Non-attendance 100% fee applies.

More events happening in the Region



The STEM NOW team have been busy working with STEM Ambassadors to put together some great online activities and CPD for Teachers and Educators.

Our Masterclass sessions include presentations about self-driving cars, the world of pharmaceuticals, preventing plastics pollution with the Environment Agency and a Tinkercad workshop

Take a look at our [Events Calendar - January - April 2022](#).

We also have some great Curious Minds classroom sessions for schools so please feel free to share these too.



British Science Week

11-20 March

2022

British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering, and maths that will place between 11-20 March 2022!



Run by Oxford Spires Academy
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https://www.britishtscienceweek.org/app/uploads/2022/01/BSA_BSW_secondary_full_1121v16.pdf



Oxford Vaccine Group

Department of Paediatrics

Clinical Vaccine Research and Immunisation Education

Medical Sciences Division

Vaccines Past, Present ... Future?

KS5 Study Day Friday 18 March 2022. 0915-1445

Explore vaccine development, typhoid, and Covid-19

The Covid pandemic has presented an unprecedented challenge for the scientific community to rapidly develop effective vaccines.

Oxford has been at the forefront of this research. As well as creating the first licensed vaccine for Covid-19, the Oxford group also developed the recent conjugate vaccine for typhoid, which remains a dangerous disease in many parts of the world today.

This **KS5 Study Day** will delve into the most recent progress in vaccine research, examining the challenges of vaccine development. It includes engagement with Oxford research scientists and will be ideal for students interested in medicine, biology, and international development.

Students will attend lectures by Oxford scientists, take part in hands-on activities and examine museum displays on the history of typhoid and vaccination,



At the **History of Science Museum**, they will meet researchers in vaccination science and explore the history of medicine and treatment of disease in hands-on workshops.

At the Bodleian, they will analyse past and present arguments about vaccination, honing their critical thinking skills.

BOOKING & INFORMATION

Booking is essential. Cost: £5 per student.

Please email Chris Parkin at learning@hsm.ox.ac.uk for more details and a booking form.