



making physics matter

Science Governor: ideas for action

Based on your findings from discussions with the science lead and review of science within your school, you should be able to identify some areas on which to focus. The list below provides suggested actions to assist.

1. *How to improve the profile of science*

Suggestion	Attempted?
Push for science items to be listed on School Improvement/Development Plan	
Raise profile of science plans and achievements at Governor meetings	
If one does not exist for science, but does for other subjects, suggest a science lead be appointed	

2. *Issues with budgetary constraints*

Suggestion	Attempted?
Assist with funding applications/passing on opportunities discussed in the governor network	
Investigate local businesses who could demonstrate use of STEM subjects to pupils	

3. *How to support the science lead*

Suggestion	Attempted?
Meet head of science/science co-ordinator at least twice per year	
Assist on trips, helping at internal events and clubs	
Attend and participate in special science events where possible eg science fairs, space camp, award applications	
Visit science departments of schools in your partnership or pyramid	
Conduct Voice of the Pupil interviews or feedback sessions	
Encourage the school to promote science events and achievements in local papers, newsletters and websites (school and Ogden Trust)	
Write up exciting science events for Phiz e-news	
Where applicable, nominate staff for awards eg Primary Science Teaching Trust	
Involve the wider school community, such as the PTA to provide refreshments at family science events	

4. *Embedding science prominence into the school/succession planning*

Suggestion	Attempted?
Ensure the SLT are aware of the reliance placed on any individual	
Encourage the science lead to bring someone into the team to assist with the workload – this has the added benefit of training this person for the future if necessary	

5. *Improve the science capital/enrichment opportunities*

Suggestion	Attempted?
Encourage the school to write a letter to parents asking for those who use science in their jobs to contact the school and enter a database of such contacts	
Suggest creating a photo display and register of those parents	
Start to involve those parents (guest speaker/talk, exciting case studies)	
Help find guest speakers for specific topics, year groups or family learning nights	

6. *Other suggestions*

Suggestion	Attempted?
Encourage addition of Ogden Trust link and other science achievements to school website	
Encourage others to join the Science Governor Group eg members from your school's partnership	
Swap examples of good practice amongst the group	
Pass on useful information from Science Governor meetings to your school	
Promote STEM activities and Ogden Trust on social media eg Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram	

7. *Useful links*

Suggestion	Attempted?
Questions for Governors produced by The Wellcome Trust http://www.questionsforgovernors.co.uk/primary/science-and-maths/	
Wellcome Trust guidance on good governance https://wellcome.ac.uk/what-we-do/our-work/supporting-school-governors-and-trustees	
WhizzPopBang article about a new Ofsted 'deep dive' into science https://www.whizzpopbang.com/blog/a-primary-science-coordinators-guide-to-an-ofsted-deep-dive-into-science/	
Cbeebies science section https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/curations/science-activities	
CBBC science section https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/science-on-cbbc	