



The Teacher Scientist Network – best practice in local partnerships

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The Teacher Scientist Network (TSN) is a science education charity, hosted by the John Innes Centre, part of the world-renowned Norwich Research Park, UK. Our aim is to enhance local science teaching with direct input from local scientists, enabling contemporary science to reach the classroom.

Facilitated partnerships are arranged between scientists and local teachers. The scientist assists in the planning and delivery of activities supporting subject knowledge development for the teachers whilst enabling young people (5-18 yrs.) to meet and work with 'real scientists' thereby challenging the (often negative) stereotype of scientists and what scientists do.

TSN also arranges high-quality continued professional development for its high school teachers and primary science workshops (PSW) for its primary members. Both programmes address teacher subject knowledge - the Master Class programme re-igniting teacher enthusiasm for their subject, whilst PSW's help address issues around teacher confidence to teach science effectively (as identified in a 2006 Wellcome Trust report). Teachers and scientists are also supported by a large and varied collection of free-to-loan resources designed to encourage hands-on investigative science, part of our Kit Club.