

SCORE workplan 2013-14

Background

SCORE (Science Community Representing Education) is a partnership between the Association for Science Education, the Institute of Physics, the Royal Society, the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the Society of Biology. Launched in September 2006 and chaired by Professor Julia Buckingham, the SCORE partnership aims to bring collective action and a strategic approach to strengthening core science education at 5-19 and believes that the key to maximising the impact of its efforts lies in a greater degree of collaboration and in having a sense of common purpose.

Strategic aims

The partners' aims are for SCORE to:

1. increase the influence and effectiveness of the partner organisations by providing a coherent, independent voice for the science community in support of education.
2. develop policy based on the strongest possible evidence embracing the following areas:
 - curriculum
 - qualifications and assessment
 - schools and colleges workforce
 - school ethos towards science education .
3. inform and unite the science and science education communities on key issues in science education policy, challenging and advising policy makers and influencers

SCORE 2012-2013

The SCORE member organisations work under a Memorandum of Understanding which outlines the working methods of SCORE and the financial contribution of each member organisation to the collaboration.

The SCORE Chair meets regularly with the CEOs of the SCORE partner organisations, or their representatives. The SCORE Committee continues to meet regularly, holding approximately eight formal meetings each year. These meetings are used to discuss emerging policy issues and set the direction of any required research. In addition, SCORE now establishes task and finish groups for policy projects. The members of task and finish groups are drawn from a wide range of organisations, providing the SCORE partners with additional expertise.

Budget 2013-2014

SCORE's budget for 2013-2014 is £170,000. The funders of SCORE during this period will be the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, DfE and the SCORE member organisations.

SCORE's expenditure covers staff salaries (2.3 FTE), SCORE meetings for the Committee and Chief Executives, workshops and seminars to provide policy advice and research projects to inform policy advice.

SCORE programme of activities

A Science education policy research projects

1. *Resourcing of Science in Schools* will be launched in May 2013. This project gathered evidence on the state of resourcing in primary and secondary schools in England and will propose recommendations for ensuring schools appropriately resource school science. SCORE will disseminate these recommendations in 2013.

2. *Mathematics in the sciences* will take forward part of the recommendations from the SCORE mathematics in the science report in 2012 to exemplify how mathematics can be appropriately assessed at science A-level.
3. *Provision of Key Stage 4 science qualifications* aims to develop a SCORE position on what provision should be available for all 16 year olds, including provision for progressing further in the subject and for developing informed members of society.

B Providing guidance on science education policy

1. Provide advice on the content and structure of the National Curriculum for science.
2. Advise on the implementation of the new National Curriculum to ensure that science specific teaching and learning needs are satisfied.
3. Provide input to future policy for content and assessment of Key Stage 4 science qualifications.
4. Continue to advise Government regarding the process for qualification development. This includes input into the development of new arrangements for involving higher education and learned societies in the development of A-levels.
5. Continue to provide advice on primary and secondary science, including the curriculum and its assessment.
6. Provide advice on the design and impact of accountability measures.
7. Provide advice on the recruitment, retention and deployment of the teaching workforce in the sciences.
8. Continue to provide policy advice on barriers and enablers to practical work in science, with a particular focus on the resources required to ensure schools and colleges are able to deliver high quality practical work in science.
9. Advise on other policy issues as necessary.

C Informing and uniting the science community

1. Deliver at least 4 discussion seminars or workshops annually for the science community on science education issues, including an annual stakeholder meeting with the major players in science education policy to horizon scan and prioritise areas of work .
2. Continue to maintain the SCORE website, and to provide a SCORE monthly electronic newsletter.
3. To contribute to advisory groups as appropriate.
4. Continue to work with ACME and E4E to complement the other committees' work and ensure joined up approaches to common policy issues.

Budget

2013-2014

Income

DfE	44,000
Partner	
funding	75,000
Gatsby	51,000
TOTAL	170,000

Expenditure

Staffing	100,000
SCORE	
Meetings	13,000
Discussion	
meetings	25,000
Research	32,000
TOTAL	170,000