

Primary Science Enhancement Award (PSEA) scheme for Initial Teacher Education



The Primary Science Teaching Trust (PSTT) has developed a **Primary Science Enhancement Award (PSEA)** scheme for **Initial Teacher Education**. The PSEA scheme enables student teachers to engage in reflective practice and development in primary science beyond the statutory content of their initial teacher education phase. The scheme has been piloted over the last two academic years, and from September 2023, it will be open to student teachers from any UK ITE provider who has registered for their organisation to take part. It is suitable for PGCE students, for final year undergraduate students, and for students going into teaching through school-based routes.

At the start of the scheme, in consultation with their ITE tutor, the student identifies their intended outcomes and devises their own programme of reflective activity and a timeline for this. The ITE provider will be responsible for agreeing any internal timelines for the students and any additional support given is at their discretion. PSTT will make relevant information, supporting documents and key dates available on the PSTT website.

The student is responsible for producing a portfolio of evidence, which is signed off by the student's own ITE tutor before they submit it to PSTT through the website. The award will be made at one level, i.e. the standard has been reached or not, and a certificate will be issued by PSTT to all students whose portfolios meet the standard. An anonymised exemplar of a completed portfolio that met the standard is available [here](#). The purpose of the certificate is to verify that the student completed the scheme and has engaged with PSTT, the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) and the Association for Science Education (ASE) and the logos of these three organisations are included on the certificate.

For further information, please visit our [Support for ITE](#) page. This page also has links to videos to hear two student teachers talk about their experience of taking part in the PSEA scheme last year.

HOW TO TAKE PART IN THE PSEA FOR ITE SCHEME NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/24

Registration must be made by **the TUTOR at an initial teacher education provider** by completing the **Registration of Interest Form** by **15th July 2023 at the latest**. Please note that the form is for tutors only; students should not be completing it. Students who take part will register to do so through their initial teacher education provider.

Please note: All tutors who register interest through this form will be invited to **an online information meeting** (date to be confirmed). Attending the information meeting does not oblige any institution to take part. Following the meeting, all tutors wanting to go ahead with the scheme must confirm with PSTT by 1st August 2023. All tutors who have confirmed will then be invited to an online 'getting started' meeting in September 2023 - dates to be confirmed but there will be two options. Again, attendance at this meeting will be compulsory. PSTT very much hopes you and your organisation will want to engage with this scheme and look forward to seeing you at one of the information meetings in June. Please don't forget to register your interest by **15th July 2023**.

