

**PGCE Primary
Science Pathway Module
2019-2020**

Dear Trainee

I'm looking forward to meeting you in the week beginning 23rd September for what I hope will prove to be an exciting and rewarding year for you. You will be given a Science Pathway Study Guide during your first week, which details the nature of the module plus a full reading list and information about the assignment.

There is a Forest School day early in the Autumn Term on Friday 4th October. The cost of this residential last year was £30, which included food. You will need to make sure that you have adequate warm clothing, footwear ('wellies') and waterproofs. Please note that if due to financial or personal circumstances, attending this trip will be difficult for you, other arrangements can be made for you to fulfil the aims of this trip. Also, during the course there may be some optional activities that will incur a small cost. If you do not wish to take part in these activities you will not be at a disadvantage.

You may also like to do the following to prepare yourself for the course

- Familiarise yourself with the 2014 National Curriculum Programmes of Study for science for both Key Stage 1 and 2. You will find information and documents on the curriculum at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-science-programmes-of-study/national-curriculum-in-england-science-programmes-of-study>
- During your pre-course school placement observe a science lesson if possible. Make notes on the content, how it was taught, the activities the children undertook and the resources used. After the lesson, see if you can evaluate it – was it taught in an interesting and interactive way? Were the children enthused? Could you see progression in their learning?
- Read one or two books from the science pathway list below.
- Visit the Association of Science Education (ASE) website and consider joining this excellent science organisation. The ASE practitioners' journal 'Primary Science' is used extensively on the science modules and many previous science students have published articles in it. <http://www.ase.org.uk/home/>

I hope you have a good summer and look forward to meeting you in September.



Dr Rob Bowker
(Primary Science Pathway Lead)

Science Pathway Core Texts:

Dunn, M. & Peacock, A. (eds. 2012) *Primary Science: A Guide to Teaching Practice*, London: Sage Publishers.

Harlen, W. & Qualter, A. (2014) *The Teaching of Science in Primary Schools* (Sixth Edition), London: David Fulton Publishers.

Lakin, L. (2013) *Developing Independent Learning in Science*, Maidenhead: Open University Press

Waite, S. (ed.) (2011) *Children Learning Outside the Classroom: from Birth to Eleven*. London: Sage.