University Briefing 2019

The Great Science Share for Schools is a national, annual campaign to inspire young people into science and engineering by sharing their scientific questions with audiences. It places children’s ideas and voices at its heart and:

- encourages young people to communicate their scientific questions and investigations with new audiences
- improves teacher confidence in teaching children to think and work scientifically
- raises the profile and value of school science, improving the science capital of children and their families

What makes it great?
Three founding principles guide involvement in this campaign for primary and secondary schools:

- child-centred – it’s about children presenting what they have investigated in their own words
- inclusive and non-competitive – everyone can be involved, it embraces all learners
- cross boundaries and promotes collaboration – by giving a great reason to bring people together

What are the benefits?

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<th>Features</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
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<td>Children asking and exploring their own scientific questions in class or at home. Teachers working with colleagues to develop confidence in teaching working scientifically.</td>
<td>Children are boosted in their enjoyment for learning science by working scientifically. Children take more interest in science by asking and investigating. Teachers address a core part of the National Curriculum requirements for Key Stage 1 and 2.</td>
<td>Improved family engagement in science, raising Science Capital. Improved children's attitudes and experience of science – they see science as something ‘they can and want to do’. Improved teacher identity with science in their world/community, the scientists and engineers who work near them, raising aspirations to careers in science.</td>
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What could you do? The team at The University of Manchester are keen to support your involvement in the Great Science Share for Schools. You could:

- Run your own event on site for local schools
- Provide a free venue for a group of schools to have an event in your building or on your site
- Support a local school cluster or alliance to run their event

18th June 2019
www.greatscienceshare.org
#GreatSciShare
- Attend an event hosted by a school as a VIP
- Become a Great Science Share for Schools (GSSfS) Champion by taking part in #AskAQuestion
- Promote the Great Science Share to local schools via your e-newsletters and website

Dependent on what you choose, the Manchester GSSfS team can provide you with branding and marketing materials, newsletter information and assets. All you need to do is register and get in touch with us and we can send content through.

What’s in it for you?
Many universities will focus the majority of their outreach activities on secondary and post-16 learners; the Great Science Share for Schools offers you a platform to get involved with more local primary schools as part of a national activity, where a real difference can be made. E.g. the GSSfS event held at The University of Manchester hosted 337 pupils from 36 primary and secondary schools across the 10 Local Authorities of Greater Manchester.

Participation in the GSSfS can bring lots of benefits to your widening participation and outreach activities through:

- A simple, focused engagement with children from primary school age, sharing your university with those who don’t yet understand what higher education is all about
- Opportunity to profile your academic colleagues and their research within the local community
- Great experience for your staff and students – positive experiences for undergraduate or postgraduate students by linking with young people and helping them to develop vital questioning and listening skills
- Going out to local schools or having children on-site, showing that your university invests in the community, as well as long-term recruitment and influence
- Feeding key strategic areas in universities and data returns, by collating figures on engagement with schools in areas of social disadvantage etc.
- Tangible support and collaboration with other leading HE partners, enabling national impact on thousands of children, teachers and pupils.

Data you can collect from the Great Science Share for Schools? The GSSfS event at The University of Manchester in 2018 had 14 schools from the Greater Manchester Local Authority attend –of these 11 were from high areas of social deprivation. The data collected through participating in GSSfS can contribute towards your university’s Access and Participation Plan. You can, for example:

- Measure the % of schools from socially disadvantaged areas
- Measure the % of schools from low participation neighbourhoods (where a low proportion of young people progress to HE)

What now?
Register your interest at www.greatscienceshare.org
For further information email: greatscishare@manchester.ac.uk or call: 0161 306 3991