

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 is open to trainee 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 via an e-portal. 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

If you would like to run the award for the trainees at your institution, please contact us by emailing info@pstt.org.uk to express your interest. We will then be in touch to arrange a brief online meeting to tell you more about what is involved.

The award begins with an online introductory meeting – date to be confirmed but there will be two options. Attendance at this meeting will be compulsory to be able to lead the award at your institution.

PSTT very much hopes you and your organisation will want to engage with this scheme and look forward to hearing from you.

