Meet your Science Team
Hi, I’m **Kristina Altoft** – Senior Curriculum Manager for Science. My role is to work with schools and trusts to support the teaching of science from age 5 to 19. I work closely with Pearson Edexcel colleagues so that your feedback is translated into great free qualification and paid for resources that address your needs, help you to prepare your students for high stakes exams and provide the very best support. I have 8 years experience working with Pearson Edexcel across qualifications and published resources. The scientist I would most like to have met would be Marie Curie for her work in chemistry, physics, and medicine, she founded medical research centres that are still used for vital cancer research today. She came from humble beginnings and I greatly admire how hard she fought to perseve a career in science.

Hi, I’m **Irine Muhiuddin** and I joined Pearson in 2012 and was appointed Science Subject Advisor in summer 2017. I’m responsible for advising and supporting teachers across a range of Pearson Science qualifications including GCSE, A level and BTEC. I’m the first point of contact for Science teachers and also keep teachers up to date through regular web and email updates. My scientific background is research based, having studied for a PhD in Biochemistry and also undertaking post-doctoral research. A famous scientist I admire is Alexander Fleming who discovered penicillin in 1928. This led to the development of antibiotics which have saved millions of lives.

Hello, I’m **Jo Cleary** and I’m Head of Science. I have worked for Pearson for 15 years and my role is to support the team in creating qualifications that are clear, accessible and engaging as well as being accompanied by all the support you need to teach them successfully. Please drop me a line if I can help.

A scientist I wish I had met, is Galileo. He is often called the ‘father of science’ and had a hand in maths, physics, and astronomy, he was the first to propose that the Earth actually went around the Sun, rather than the Universe revolving around Earth. He has inspired me and many others to remain curious about the world around us.

Hi, I’m **Kristina Altoft** – Senior Curriculum Manager for Science. My role is to work with schools and trusts to support the teaching of science from age 5 to 19. I work closely with Pearson Edexcel colleagues so that your feedback is translated into great free qualification and paid for resources that address your needs, help you to prepare your students for high stakes exams and provide the very best support. I have 8 years experience working with Pearson Edexcel across qualifications and published resources. The scientist I would most like to have met would be Marie Curie for her work in chemistry, physics, and medicine, she founded medical research centres that are still used for vital cancer research today. She came from humble beginnings and I greatly admire how hard she fought to perseve a career in science.

Hi, I’m **Irine Muhiuddin** and I joined Pearson in 2012 and was appointed Science Subject Advisor in summer 2017. I’m responsible for advising and supporting teachers across a range of Pearson Science qualifications including GCSE, A level and BTEC. I’m the first point of contact for Science teachers and also keep teachers up to date through regular web and email updates. My scientific background is research based, having studied for a PhD in Biochemistry and also undertaking post-doctoral research. A famous scientist I admire is Alexander Fleming who discovered penicillin in 1928. This led to the development of antibiotics which have saved millions of lives.
Hello I’m **Damian Riddle** – and I’m Senior Qualifications Manager for A level Sciences, but I also look after International GCSE for UK schools and GCSE Astronomy. I taught Chemistry for 11 years in three different schools in London and Oxfordshire, and was also a Principal Examiner for A level Chemistry. I moved to Pearson in March 2005, and have been Subject Officer for A level Biology, and Chair of International GCSE. I've been in my current role since the end of 2009, and have worked on every Science qualification we offer!

There are two scientists I’d loved to have met: Robert Hooke, because he was a great polymath and because it was the name of the first science department I taught in; and Dorothy Hodgkin, because her work still amazes and fascinates me.

Hi, I’m **Abigail Lawrence** – Product Developer for A level and GCSE Sciences. I taught Chemistry for 4 years before joining Pearson at the end of 2019. My role is to create, develop and improve the resources on offer to schools and teachers. I also work closely with the rest of the Science team to ensure we are meeting the needs of teachers and learners.

The scientist I would have liked to have met is Edward Jenner. He was responsible for the eradication of smallpox through his invention of the vaccine. Due to his discovery, and his willingness to share his research, vaccinations are now widely used as a method to prevent disease and save approximately three million lives every year!

Hi, I’m **Samad Gunga** and I’m the Head of Science Assessment at Pearson Edexcel. I have worked in the Assessment team for over 9 years. I have the end-to-end responsibility for delivering high-quality assessment materials and accurate and timely outcomes from Pearson to our customers for the above qualifications.

A scientist I wish I had met is Nikola Tesla. There is a debate about whether he was an Engineer or a Scientist, but either way, he is known for designing the alternating-current (AC) electric system, which is the predominant electrical system used across the world today. He also created the “Tesla coil,” which is still used in radio technology.