



Pearson  
Edexcel

# Meet your Science Team



**Shauna O'Brien**

I'm **Shauna** and I'm Head of Science. My role is to oversee the development and delivery of GCSEs and A levels across the sciences, Computer Science, Psychology and PE, as well as the print and digital products that sit alongside these qualifications. I've spent 10 years in the classroom teaching science, in Southend-On Sea, Brixton, and Birmingham, which has given me a huge appreciation of the challenges that teachers face in delivering a high-quality science education for all students. I am excited to use this experience to deliver products that make a difference, using insights from research and expert teachers across our schools.

**Irine Muhiuddin**

I'm **Irine** and I am the Pearson Edexcel Subject Advisor, a role that I have been in since 2017. I am here to support and advise teachers across a range of Pearson Edexcel Science qualifications including GCSE, A level and BTEC. I'm often the first point of contact for Science teachers and help keep teachers up-to-date with news and information through regular web and email updates. My scientific background is research based, having studied for a PhD in Biochemistry, and I also worked as a research scientist at University College London

**Tosin Oliyide**

I'm **Tosin**, the Senior Qualification Manager for GCSE Sciences. My role revolves around sculpting our GCSE Science qualifications to meet the needs of our learners and educators. With my background in leadership roles across Independent Schools and a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) where I have held roles such as head of Science, SENCo, Head of Curriculum Support and Independent Educational Consultant, I am committed to making science more accessible and supporting teachers in this endeavour. What excites me most about this role is the prospect of collaboratively shaping the future of science education.

**Lee Thompson**

I'm **Lee**, a Product Developer working on UK Science qualifications within the Product Team. I studied Science at University before becoming a secondary school Science teacher in Essex. I specialised in Biological Sciences but have broad experience across each discipline in KS3 – KS5. I've got a keen interest in all things Science, particularly Biology and I am looking forward to helping mould future specifications within the Science Curriculum.

**Andy Woods**

I'm **Andy** and I look after the GCSE Science, GCSE Psychology and A level Psychology quals here at Pearson. In my role as product manager, I am always trying to find ways to effectively support teachers and centres. Before joining Pearson, I taught Science with a specialism in Chemistry for almost 20 years in state schools in the south of England. I have a deep empathy for the challenges teachers face day to day in the classroom and always aim to support them in the best way I can. I love 'geeking' out about science and have had the opportunity to host Pearson's science education Podcast 'View from the Lab.' over the past couple of years. I believe the joy of science and opportunities within it should be available to everyone.

**James Quirk**

I'm **James** and I'm a Senior Content & Learning Specialist (science editor). Whether you're an enthusiastic educator or an eager learner, my goal is to ensure the creation of high-quality teaching, learning, and assessment materials that you can trust and enjoy. Prior to joining Pearson, I had the privilege of earning a PhD in Materials Science at Imperial College London. During my time there, I focused on researching new semiconductor materials for UV water treatment devices, spending most days peering into a transmission electron microscope (TEM) in the basement of the Royal School of Mines. One scientist I admire is David Bohm, who blended intellectual rigour with relentless curiosity and moral courage – all cornerstone qualities of a great scientist.

Clare Collett



Rich Cullen



Samantha Childs



I'm **Clare** and I'm an Advanced Content and Learning Specialist for Science. I've worked for Pearson for 15 years, and have been working in the science team since 2020. Over my time at Pearson, I have worked on both print and digital content for secondary school students and teachers. My aim is always to make sure that whatever I am working on is as good as it possibly can be, and that it is clear, accurate and engaging. Before working at Pearson, I studied for a PhD in plant genetics at the University of York, and then spent a few years working on the editorial team for scientific journals.

I'm **Rich**, Digital Product Manager KS4 Science. I am responsible for the end-to-end process of producing science learning products digitally as well as developing print products for KS4 Science. An exciting project at the moment, includes facilitating the launch of various content in ActiveHub, Pearson's new digital learning solution for schools. I appreciate the challenge of providing quality teaching resources to engage students having taught in schools for six years.

I am passionate about science as a subject as it allows us to develop new technologies to solve real world problems such as the climate crisis.

I am **Samantha**, an Advanced Content and Learning Specialist for Science. With a background in teaching science and an interest in ensuring the message that science is for everyone can be heard, my role is to work with science teachers and other content specialists to author engaging, up-to-date, inclusive and accessible content for our KS3 and KS4 resources. I ensure content meets the needs of teachers and students to support their teaching and learning, so it is the best that it can be. The advancing of digital technology makes this an exciting time to be involved in creating great science content that truly is for all.

**Jess Pentelow**



I'm **Jess**, a Senior Product Manager in the Science team, and work with the rest of our teaching and learning team to manage and develop our secondary science resources. I'm excited to work within a team that is focused on building products and services that can make a real difference to teachers and students, including making the most of the benefits of technology. I'm passionate about demonstrating the value and importance of science to all students, supporting the needs of teachers, and developing content that is engaging, accessible and diverse. We are lucky in the team to work closely with many teachers and other subject experts to both shape and create our content.

**Emily McRae**



I'm **Emily**, the Senior Qualification Manager for A-Level Sciences. My role is to develop advanced level qualifications that inspire teachers, engage learners and enable progression to future studies. Previously, I worked as a teacher of science, and held leadership responsibilities such as Head of House, Deputy Head of Science and KS5 lead. Now I use my experience in schools and secure knowledge of KS5 teaching to understand customer needs and develop useful resources centred around educators and learners. I love how diverse science is and how we can use it to answer life's big questions! I am passionate about improving science capital for all so everyone believes they can be part of the science community and am grateful I can contribute to that.

**Trudy Sanders**



I'm **Trudy**, an Apprentice Content and Learning Specialist in the science team. I joined Pearson after completing a Masters in Chemistry at Cardiff University. I was very excited to join such an experienced team and create engaging science resources to try and raise students' interest in pursuing science.

**Samad Gunga**

Hi, I'm **Samad**, Head of Science Assessment for GCSE and GCE Science and Psychology, along with GCSE Astronomy and Computer Science. I have worked in Assessment for over 17 years. I have the end-to-end responsibility for delivering high-quality assessment materials and accurate and timely outcomes from Pearson to our customers.

It is the opportunity to make a tangible impact on science education that excites me most about my role within Pearson Science Assessment. Our efforts can transform how students view and engage with science, ultimately shaping a better future for scientists and thinkers.

**Daniel Tunley**

Hi, I'm **Daniel** and I'm an Assessment Leader in the Science Team. I am responsible for GCE Biology Specification B, ELC Science and for the GCE Science Practical Endorsement.

I love being a part of the science team. The sciences are an integral part of our education system, and I am proud to play a small part in that. ELC is an important first step for students who struggle with the sciences and can be a gateway to GCSE Science. A science A-level can be foundational to so many journeys into higher education and into the workplace.

Regardless of whether a student continues with an education or career in STEM there are many skills an education in science can teach us that can be used throughout our lives.

**Eve Rice**

Hi, I'm **Eve** and I am Assessment Leader for GCE Chemistry and Physics. I love working as a part of the UK Science team as I get to work closely with subject specialists. My main role is to support examiners and ensure the successful end-to-end process and delivery of examinations, as well as offering support and guidance to centres with all things assessment.

I am passionate about education, having worked as a lecturer and moderator in further education, and I most look forward to being a part of the team that has a positive impact on our science candidates.

Stephen Gillespie



Hello, I'm **Stephen**, the Assessment Leader for GCSE Science. My role at Pearson is to support examiners and to help make sure that the assessment process is fair and effective. I love working with examiners and have a lot of experience working on the teacher side of assessment.

I started working at Pearson in April 2023 and, prior to this, worked as a teacher in secondary schools and a sixth form college. My teaching background is in English, but I worked closely with my science colleagues when I took the lead on More Able education – and as part of Teaching and Learning Improvement groups. Also, having worked in a core subject, I understand the importance and value of science education – and the responsibility of science teachers and examiners.

If I had to pick a favourite scientist, it would be my mum, who worked as a pathologist when I was growing up. I remember visiting her in the lab many times, where she would explain her role and what all the fancy looking equipment did. After I followed in my father's footsteps into studying arts and humanities subjects, my mum is very pleased that I'm now working with scientists.

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