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 are still used for vital cancer research today. She came from humble beginnings and I greatly admire how hard she fought to persue a career in science.

Hi, 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 **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.

---

Hello, I’m **Hannah Cheek**, the Senior Qualification Manager for GCSE Sciences. I joined Pearson at the start of 2019 after fifteen years of teaching Science in Secondary Schools and Sixth Form Colleges. I am responsible for ensuring that our GCSE Science qualifications are meeting teachers and learners’ needs and ensuring that all our schools feel fully supported.

Rosalind Franklin is my favourite scientist. Her work with X-ray crystallography was a key step in uncovering the structure of DNA. Our understanding of this fundamental chemical of life has led to a wide range of advances in many areas of Science, including Medicine, Forensics, Agriculture and Genetics.

---

Hi I’m **Andy Woods** and I’m the Product Manager for GCSE Science at Pearson. My role is to understand and respond to teacher and learner needs and make Pearson Edexcel the most teacher-focused board for GCSE Science.

My background before joining Pearson was in science education. For 18 years, I taught Science and Chemistry in a variety of state comprehensive schools. This has made me acutely aware of the unique challenges science teachers face in UK schools.

The scientist I would most like to meet is William Smith “Father of English” Geology. He created the first Geological map of the UK – a groundbreaking achievement of the 19th century – virtually single handedly.
Hello, I’m **Deana Ivanova** – Subject Leader for Science – and responsible for Managing the end-to-end process for delivering GCSE Science examination papers for Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Combined Science. From error-free paper production all the way through to accurate and on time delivery of results every single year.

A scientist I wish I had met is Sylvia Earle, one of the first underwater explorers who has raised so much awareness about our oceans, and inspired many to discover the underwater world, including myself.

Hello I’m **Liz Pisani**, the Qualification and Delivery Award Manager for Science, Astronomy and Psychology. My role is to facilitate the different processes from producing assessment to results day and more! Prior to joining Pearson in 2017, I worked in different educational settings. My experience ranges from teaching to leadership and policy development.

As a scientist I greatly admire Thomas Edison, whose invention has greatly revolutionised the way we live and interact today. We cannot possibly imagine a life prior to Thomas Edison!

Product Manager, Edexcel: GCSE Science Qualifications

Currently on maternity leave