

## Statement about the SCORE Partnership

### Science Community Partnership Supporting Education

Key players in the science community have become increasingly concerned about a number of long-term trends within science education and have set up a new partnership, SCORE, to bring collective action to bear on these trends. SCORE partners will take a strategic approach to strengthening science education, and believe that the key to maximising the impact of their efforts, especially their influence on government, lies in a greater degree of collaboration and in having a sense of common purpose. Through this collective action, the partnership aims to increase its influence over the direction of science education in the years to come, in particular over teacher supply and retention, curriculum development, assessment, delivery of support to teachers and students, and strategies for reaching all young people regardless of age, background, level of ability, gender, ethnic origin and geographical location.

The challenge for the partnership is to work effectively with central, devolved and local government in the UK. While current efforts are focused on making step changes in entries to physics and chemistry qualifications and the recruitment and retention of specialist teachers in these subjects, SCORE is concerned with ensuring an equally healthy future for education in all the sciences. This will be impossible without greater collaborative working and a closer integration of policy and practice. Government has confirmed its wish to work with a science community which articulates its views in a coherent fashion.

SCORE is convened by the Royal Society and the other founding partners are the Association for Science Education, Biosciences Federation, Institute of Biology, Institute of Physics, Royal Society of Chemistry and the Science Council. Additional resources will be sought from government and charitable foundations to enable the partners to step up their collaboration.

The individual partners will still speak on behalf of their subjects when appropriate but SCORE will be a powerful voice for science education.

SCORE will engage with the teaching profession and key players in the science and science education fields including SETNET, the Science Learning Centres, the research community, the engineering community, science-based industry, the British Association and charities.

Working in a renewed spirit of cooperation and teamwork, the partners will undertake collaborative projects, conduct joint studies, develop common evaluation procedures and share best practice. They will develop a programme whose focus will be on activities of a type already shown to have an impact and whose principal emphasis will be on providing support for teachers.

Association for Science Education	<a href="http://www.ase.org.uk">www.ase.org.uk</a>
Biosciences Federation	<a href="http://www.bsf.ac.uk">www.bsf.ac.uk</a>
Institute of Biology	<a href="http://www.iob.org">www.iob.org</a>
Institute of Physics	<a href="http://www.iop.org">www.iop.org</a>
Royal Society	<a href="http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk">www.royalsoc.ac.uk</a>
Royal Society of Chemistry	<a href="http://www.rsc.org">www.rsc.org</a>
Science Council	<a href="http://www.sciencecouncil.org">www.sciencecouncil.org</a>