

Stem in Rathdown

10 responses

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1. What do you think of SFI's enquiry-based programme? How would you improve it?

10 responses

All working well

It is accessible, experiments are well laid out and explained. However it would also be great to see some videos of experiments so teachers know they are on the right track and to show the class.

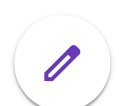
Good. Youtube tutorials for activities would be useful.

I think it is good and there is a lot of different enquiries and experiments that the girls can do.

An excellent programme with good incorporation of STEM.

good

Introducing primary school students to science in a practical, hands-on, enjoyable and interactive way. It is a great space to inspire and engage young people in science and technology in the world around them.



2. What is SFI, what does it do?

10 responses

They work to promote science technology

Science Foundation Ireland, helps schools to integrate/teach STEM, raise awareness of Science/STEM

Science Foundation Ireland. Provide funding and support for STEM

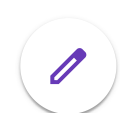
Science Foundation of Ireland. Supports that planning of science/STEMS in schools.

Promotes and develops STEM research

I don't know what it is

Science Foundation Ireland is the statutory body in the Republic of Ireland with responsibility for funding oriented basic and applied research in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics with a strategic focus.

The Science Foundation of Ireland supports and promotes STEM education



3. How often do you teach a science class? and when?

10 responses

Once a week

Ideally & mostly weekly, sometimes fortnightly

Twice a week

In the afternoons, every other week.

Weekly.

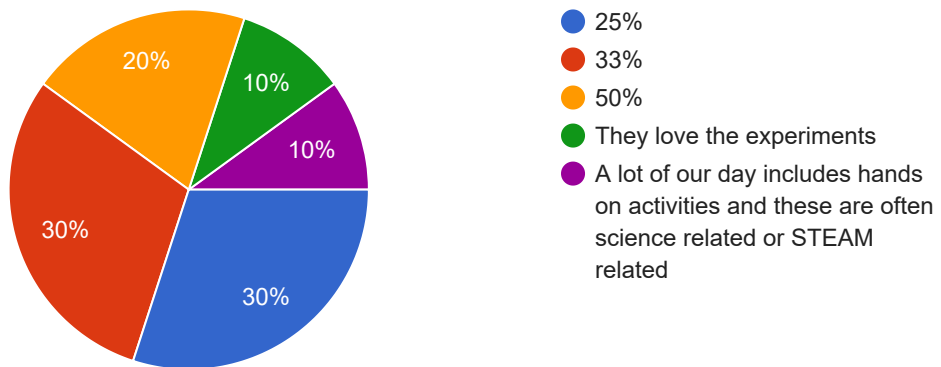
once a week on Fridays

Once or twice a week depending on what we are working on. Sometimes we do weekly blocks of science.

In Pre-School we do not teach a specific science class but many of our daily activities include elements of science / STEAM.

4. What proportion of your science classes involve experiments?

10 responses



5. How can you be supported more?

10 responses

More concrete materials

Have a Science Day in school, devote more time to whole staff planning of Science across the classes,

Clearer links between suggested experiments and specific chapters in textbook

Having the required equipment and resources.

Funding for schools to purchase equipment

extra interactive based activities and visitors

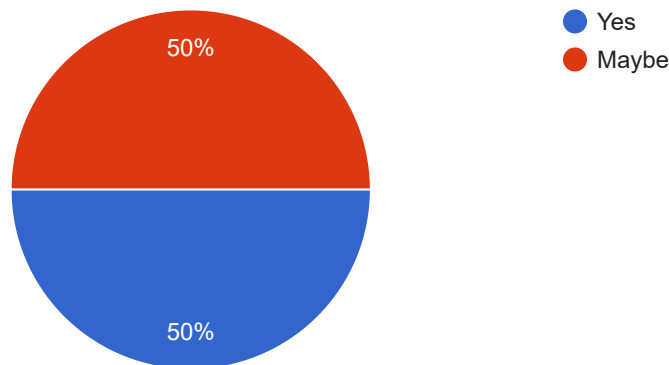
Having the materials required, more classroom space

More training that links STEAM with Aistear and the Pre-School curriculum

Proper curriculum based alignment throughout the school so that we have both a

6. Do you need more CPD?

10 responses



7. How should CPD be delivered? By Zoom or instruction in person?

10 responses

in person

Dont mind

My preference is in person but happy to do either

In person

A mixture of both

Zoom

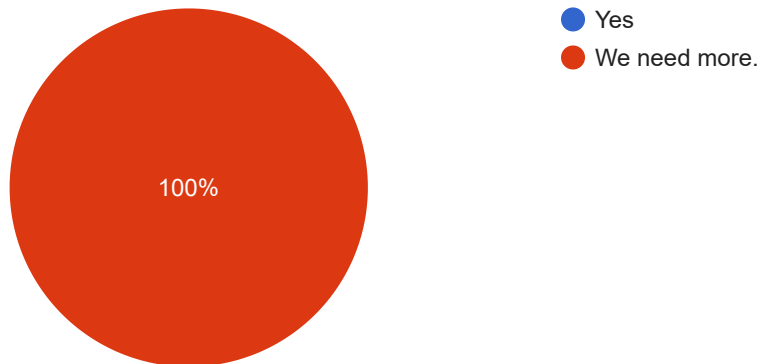
Hands on work and preferably in person instruction.

Recorded sessions that we could access in our own time would be great

In person

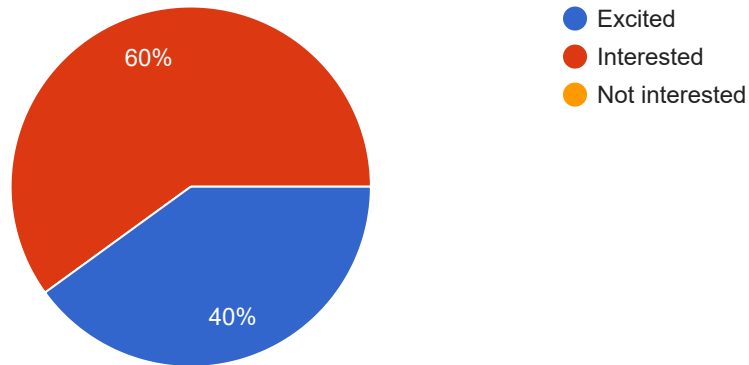
8. Do we have enough equipment?

10 responses



10. What is the children's attitude to STEM?

10 responses



11. How would you improve or make classes/experiments better?

9 responses

Be ready on time!

Allow more time for experiments in my planning, give the students more opportunities to engage in hands-on work

A room with lots of STEM equipment that we can use

Smaller class sizes

i don't know

More time in the curriculum to give to science and more space so on going work can happen in the classroom . Lots of experiments take time to plan and process.

More guidance for staff on how to use equipment and materials

A dedicated science lab/area that we could use that was stocked with all the appropriate equipment



12. In the future STEM will include Art and become known as STEAM. Do you have views on the value of Art as a subject at junior school level, and if so what are those views?

10 responses

Art is so important and I do a lot of it.

This is good news, Art is a great way for children to explore subjects in their own way, using different materials can allow a focus on different skills which can be transferred to lots of areas in Science

Extremely important. Art should be taught with specific learning goals and focusing on specific skills.

I really enjoy art and think it is really important in the primary classroom.

Art is a very important subject, it allows children to express themselves.

i think its a good idea

I feel this is where the students creative process really starts , they have freedom in art to let their imaginations flow.

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