



## **Applications for funding – September 2008–August 2009:**

### **Foundation, Primary, Key Stage 2/3 Transition, and Key Stage 3 Science Innovative and Cluster Projects**

Since 1997, the AstraZeneca Science Teaching Trust (AZSTT) has commissioned a broad spectrum of large and small scale continuing professional development projects designed to develop and enhance the practice of teaching primary science. More recently Trustees have focussed their attention on projects designed to improve Key Stage 2–3 (primary-secondary) transition and have piloted projects to cover the implementation of the new Key Stage 3 curriculum.

Applications are now invited for financial support to support professional development through:

- **Primary Science Projects** (Early Years, Key Stage 1 or 2).
- **Key Stage 2/3 Transition**
- **Key Stage 3**

**Successful innovative projects** will be imaginative, distinctive and at the leading edge of continuing professional development for teachers of science. Projects will commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 with funding available for one year only.

**Successful cluster projects** will be applications from groups of schools drawing on the pedagogy and outcomes of previous projects funded by the Trust. Précis exemplars of successful applications and some project outcomes can be found on the website [www.azteachscience.co.uk](http://www.azteachscience.co.uk).

Trustees will be pleased to receive bids supporting any area of Continuing Professional Development of science teachers, and will also be interested in bids which focus on:

- **Early Years**
- **Special Educational Needs**
- **Key Stage 3 Science; cross-curriculum approaches**

Expected outcomes of the project would provide evidence of the following:

- Improved pupils' achievement in science
- Improved pupils experience and enjoyment of science
- Improved teachers' confidence in teaching science

- Improved teachers' knowledge of science and science pedagogy
- Improved leadership and management in science.

Projects should be devised to include programmes which:

- Actively involve head teachers and their governing bodies
- Provide high quality training for professional development in science
- Involve intensive development work with at least two nominated teachers from each school involved in the project, one of whom must be the science co-coordinator/leader/head of department
- Incorporate local scientific expertise, e.g. through local industry, secondary schools, tertiary colleges, institutes of higher education, LEAs and commercial organisations.
- Clearly specify anticipated outcomes or success criteria through the given time framework
- Will make long term and substantial changes to science teaching in the participating schools
- Include an integral and coherent evaluation strategy carefully designed to assess anticipated outcomes.
- Acknowledge current national and local initiatives
- Make a contribution to current developments primary education.

It is expected that the project providers will:

- Use staff with relevant knowledge and experience who are able to build opportunities into the programme and address current national initiatives
- Have active links with local authorities and clusters of schools
- Provide evidence of previous consultation support to schools.
- Formulate their own internal evaluation as well as co-operating with external evaluators.
- Agree to submit progress reports as required. Details of the structure and content of these will be discussed with successful providers.
- Be proactive in disseminating the project. The Trustees encourage providers to contribute to dissemination through meetings and conferences as well as utilising data for purposes of publication in professional and academic journals.

Project providers are likely to include institutions of higher education, local Authorities, commercial organisations, consultants or groups of schools.

### **Guidelines for proposals for funding**

These guidelines are intended to assist potential providers to write proposals that will meet with the Trust's criteria for selection of projects.

#### **Rationale**

Begin with a rationale that sets out the thinking behind your project proposal. Discuss the potential benefits to all those involved and suggest why this project is timely.

### Aims and outcomes

Express your proposal in terms of aims and intended outcomes to that Trustees are clear about what you intend to do and how you intend to do it.

- The purpose of your bid should be made plain through a set of clearly expressed aims
- Each of your aims should be broken down into a small number of outcomes that demonstrate how the aims will be addressed.

### Structure of the proposal:

In your proposal, please respond to the following questions:

- What is the timeline for your project? When and why would activities take place? A diagram would be helpful.
- How does your project link with current (national) developments at the relevant phase (Early Years/KS1/KS2/KS3)?
- How will your project benefit the pupils; the participating teachers and the partner institutions?
- How will your project acknowledge children's prior learning in science?
- What expertise will you need to buy in to support the professional development of the participants involved in your project?
- How will the outcomes of your project be sustained beyond the life of the project?
- What is your strategy for disseminating the outcomes of the project?

### Evaluation

A strategy for evaluation that can provide the data to assess impact should be an integral part of your proposal. As part of this the Trustees expect to see:

- A plan of evaluation to gauge the impact of your project
- A clearly specified set of performance or success criteria that can give a measure of the extent to which outcomes have been achieved.
- A specification of the instruments you will use to gather data to assess impact.

Previous projects have found it very helpful to employ an independent internal evaluator to assist with the planning and conduct of their own evaluation.

The Trust will provide an external evaluator to offer guidance and support with this process.

### **How to apply:**

#### **Optional two stage bidding process:**

1. To assist schools where experience of submitting bids for funding may be limited there is an optional opportunity to submit an outline one side of A4 proposal based on the criteria above. This would then be returned to the applicant with information on the appropriateness of the project and with advice on how it might be developed. If the applicant then wishes to proceed with the bidding the process below should be followed. The project outline should be sent to the Trust Administrator by 28<sup>th</sup> March 2008 and will be returned by 7<sup>th</sup> April 2008.

2. Written applications covering the outlined criteria, up to a maximum of six sides of A4 and to include a proposed budget allocation should be sent by 19<sup>th</sup> May 2008 to the Trust Administrator:

Email – [yeovale@btinternet.com](mailto:yeovale@btinternet.com) or 5 copies posted to:

Mrs Jean Smith  
AstraZeneca Science Teaching Trust Administrator  
Stafford Cottage  
Stafford Cross  
Colyton  
Devon EX24 6HZ

Tel: 01297 24167

**Optional application form:**

Project Title:	
Name and address of organisation:	
Contact e-mail	
Project type: (please tick as appropriate)	Primary Science Project <input type="checkbox"/> Science Transition Project <input type="checkbox"/> Key Stage 3/Lower Secondary Project <input type="checkbox"/>
Project category: (please tick as appropriate)	Innovative <input type="checkbox"/> Cluster <input type="checkbox"/>
Lead person:	
Others involved in the project:	
Any recent experience of Continuing Professional development projects in science:	

**Rationale for the project:**

**Aims and outcomes of the project:**

**Structure of the project (including timeline):**

**Outline evaluation plan:**

**Outline dissemination plan:**

**Budget plan:**

<b>Area of funding</b>	<b>To include</b>	<b>Funds requested (£)</b>
<b>Supply cover or equivalent</b>		
<b>Staff time</b>		
<b>Materials and services</b>		
<b>Secretarial support</b>		
<b>Evaluation</b>		
<b>Dissemination</b>		
	<b>Total funds requested from the AZSTT</b>	