

PRESS RELEASE FROM THE ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION

Association for Science Education urges MSPs to take care of science in Scottish Schools

On the occasion of the annual "Science and the Parliament" event to be held at "Our Dynamic Earth" in Edinburgh this week, the Association for Science Education called upon MSPs to ensure that science is served well by the recent curriculum changes in Scotland.

Chair of ASE Scotland, Mr Stuart Farmer said:

"The Science Lines document produced to highlight the issues for science education in Scotland asks MSPs to ensure that three points are attended to – the status of science in the curriculum, the need for science to be an entitlement until the age of 16 and investment in professional development, laboratories and equipment. Without these, science education will suffer in schools.

Chief Executive of ASE, Annette Smith said:

"Science teachers can be creative and committed to their students but they need support in their teaching environment and with professional development to make the most of the curriculum changes. It is essential to maintaining Scotland's proud science and engineering heritage that we don't lose sight of this necessity in challenging economic times"

The current President of ASE Scotland is the Scottish Government's Chief Scientific Adviser, Professor Anne Glover. Mr Farmer will be working with Professor Glover and ASE supporters in Scotland to promote the place of science in Scottish schools as the Curriculum for Excellence is rolled out and to help teachers and school laboratory technicians as they engage with the new curriculum.

Ends

Notes for Editors

The Association for Science Education (ASE) is the largest subject association in the UK with a membership which includes teachers, technicians and others involved in science education. The Association plays a significant role in promoting excellence in teaching and learning of science in schools and colleges. Working closely with the science professional bodies, industry and business, ASE provides a UK-wide network bringing together individuals and organisations to share good ideas and tackle challenges in science teaching, develop resources and foster high quality Continuing Professional Development. Further details of the ASE and its regional, national and international activities can be found at its website www.ase.org.uk

**For further information contact:
Annette Smith
Chief Executive
Association for Science Education
Tel: 01707 283006
Mob: 07771 94 780
Email: annettesmith@ase.org.uk**