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A Pinch of Salt!

October 2019

It has been a busy time at the Salters' Institute, with half term just around the corner and exciting new plans in the pipeline - including finalising the Festivals of Chemistry dates for 2020!

News about the 2020 Festivals can be found below, as well as some information about the **BEST** resources that are available to you for free!

RECAP...

The 2019 Festivals season was a busy one! It saw the roll out of the new Year 9 Festivals of Chemistry and the expansion of the Years 7&8 Festivals. A total of **67 Salters' Festivals of Chemistry** took place across the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Over 3,300 students took part in the Festival programmes, becoming forensic chemists and learning more about life at university.

2020

Planning for the 2020 Festivals is well underway, with new dates already in the diary! Keep an eye on our website for all of the dates as they are released.



Years 7 & 8 Festivals

Run in partnership with the [Royal Society of Chemistry](#), we are excited to be continuing to expand this Festival programme in 2020 and are pleased to welcome the University of Worcester as a new host to the Years 7&8 Festivals.



Year 9 Festivals

After the successful roll out of the Year 9 Festivals in 2019, we are delighted to announce that the following universities have joined the Festival programme: the University of Chester, the University of Kent, the University of Leicester, Queen Mary University of London and the University of Reading.

With more new venues still to be announced, make sure you check our website for a full list of Festival dates!

Festival entries will open on Tuesday 26 November.

In other news...



BEST[™]
Best Evidence Science Teaching

Research-evidence informed **progression toolkits**...

FREE ONLINE OPEN ACCESS

SUBJECT MAPS PROGRESSION PATHWAYS DIAGNOSTIC QUESTIONS RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

...to help you develop the **big ideas** of science.

The image shows a hand holding a magnifying glass over a document. The document displays various educational toolkits including subject maps, progression pathways, diagnostic questions, and response activities. The text 'FREE ONLINE OPEN ACCESS' is prominently displayed in a circular badge.

Best Evidence Science Teaching (BEST)

The best teaching draws on the best evidence

BEST, a new collection of teaching and learning resources developed from research evidence by the University of York Science Education Group and the [Salters' Institute](#).

In collaboration with STEM Learning, the BEST resources are available online for free to support science teachers in developing evidence-based practice. Resources for the first topics are already online, including substances and mixtures, cells, and simple electric circuits. Over 800 resources are now online covering nearly all of the science curriculum for students aged 11-14.

Keep an eye out for further topics!

Get notified via twitter [@BestEvSciTeach](#)

The BEST resources help you develop the big ideas of science through a series of key concepts, and can be adopted into your existing scheme of work.

A progression toolkit for each key concept provides:

- A research-informed learning pathway
- Diagnostic questions to provide evidence of learning and reveal misunderstandings
- Response activities to challenge misunderstandings and encourage meaning making.

The resources are focused on ages 11-14, and have been developed from the best available research evidence on the sequencing and teaching of key concepts, effective formative assessment and purposeful practical work. Phase one of the project is focused on ages 11-14. Phase two, which begins in 2020, will be developing resources for students aged 14-16.

Download the resources for free

Questions or comments? [Contact us!](#)



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