

Activities & Professional Learning

I would emphatically recommend the Science Probationer Residential to every future probationer in Scotland. This was probably the most impactful and engaging professional learning I have received so far in my career. Upon returning to my department, I immediately wanted to share what I had learned with colleagues, and set up ways for implementing what I had seen at SSERC.

One moment I kept thinking about after the residential, was when Norman prepared to do the famous – or infamous – trick of holding a glass of water upside down above his head, with nothing more than a beer mat and surface tension keeping his head dry. Whilst he did this, he exhorted us all to embody total



and unshakable faith in science in our lessons. We must step into our classroom with the confidence in our subjects that they deserve.

This is the most succinct way I could summarise the feelings of my colleagues and I at the conclusion of the Science Probationer Residential. These were two days packed with professional wisdom that the SSERC team have distilled from decades of experience. At this stage in our careers, we value the refinement and knowledge afforded by that experience. This training has enabled us all to bring novel, engaging practice to our lessons, with the added confidence that these have been tried and tested by senior teachers. With the insights provided over the residential, we can all feel to have expanded our teaching ‘toolkits’ and deliver the best lessons we possibly can. <<

Microbiology matters

The Microbiology in Schools Advisory Committee (MiSAC) promote the teaching of microbiology in schools and colleges.

Annually, they run a poster competition for schools across the UK, focused on a specific area of microbiology; the 2024 competition encouraged learners to explore *Neglected Tropical Diseases and Climate Change*. The organisation offers a range of learning and teaching resources, including scientific articles that complement the Scottish curriculum.



To find out more, visit their webpage www.misac.org.uk/browse-entire-collection.html