



Attainment in primary science boosted by teachers' engagement with STEM Learning professional development

While English primary schools no longer have external tests (SATs) for science, it remains a 'core subject' with teachers assessing the achievement of their students at the end of Key Stage 2 (KS2).

Using this data, STEM Learning analysed how students performed in science at schools where teachers had participated in STEM Learning science professional development (CPD) during the previous academic year (so enabling teachers to embed changes in practice as a result of their CPD).

This analysis shows that from 2016-18, while results for all schools improved each year, **the rate of improvement for schools engaging with STEM Learning science CPD was even greater.**

Table 1: proportion of students reaching expected standard in KS2 science

	Non-engaged schools	Schools engaging with STEM Learning science CPD in:	
		2015/16	2016/17
2016	82.4%	81.7%	
2017	83.2%	83.2%	82.5%
2018	84.1%	84.2%	83.7%

Table 2: growth in proportion of students reaching expected standard in KS2 science

	Non-engaged schools	Schools engaging with science CPD in:	
		2015/16	2016/17
Change from <u>2016</u> to 2018	1.7%	2.5%	
Change from <u>2017</u> to 2018	0.9%		1.2%

STEM Learning, March 2020.