

DART

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING STEM AWARD GUIDANCE NOTES

**MINDS
INSPIRED**

MARCH 1, 2021

Guidance Notes for incorporation in your nomination response.

1. STEM Agenda and Culture

- a. Please give evidence of your nominee's commitment and dedication to the STEM agenda within their school and give examples of the impact or improved outcomes from STEM engagement.
- b. Explain how the nominee has improved the STEM culture/ethos within his/her school.
- c. How did his/her actions cause this improvement, and was there a positive change in attitude towards STEM from students/other staff?
- d. How has the nominee increased recognition of STEM by school leadership?
- e. Has there been a shift towards a cross-curricular approach to STEM; with increased involvement from other departments and thought given to sustainability.
- f. Describe how the nominee is involved in STEM activities. Do activities include curricular and extra-curricular elements (i.e. both timetabled and non-timetabled activity)?
- g. Do his/her STEM activities include whole-school/whole year group activities as well as initiatives that involve smaller numbers?
- h. Do the nominee's STEM activities involve a wide variety of students (e.g. students of different ages, backgrounds, under-represented groups etc.)?

2. Resourceful and Effective:

- a. Please outline any effective use of resources in delivering high quality STEM content.
- b. How has the teacher overcome any obstacles and used 'out of the box' thinking in an effective and resourceful way?
- c. Please explain how the nominee works with students, and understands and engages them in a way that is relevant and useful.
- d. Evidence may include linking STEM enrichment to the curriculum, using STEM industry experts to support career guidance, or a broad range of STEM engagement including careers events, projects, mentoring, etc.

3. Innovation and Understanding:

- a. Please explain how the nominee introduced new approaches that have increased understanding of STEM subjects/STEM careers.
- b. How did these approaches increase understanding of STEM subjects/STEM careers?
- c. Do these new approaches demonstrate innovation or originality?

4. Encouragement in the Wider Community:

- a. How has the nominee actively increased engagement across the wider school community?
- b. Evidence may include engaging a broad range of teachers and departments in supporting STEM, establishment or involvement in STEM Clubs and enrichment events, building links to industry expertise, etc.