Ofsted's Chief Inspector, Sir Michael Wilshaw, comments on the study of science and foreign languages in primary schools.

### Key references to science

- Subject leader support
  - [https://www.stem.org.uk/audience/primary](https://www.stem.org.uk/audience/primary)
  - [https://www.stem.org.uk/blog/connecting-primary-mathematics-and-science-practical-approach](https://www.stem.org.uk/blog/connecting-primary-mathematics-and-science-practical-approach)
- Primary science quality mark
- Big ideas for primary science
- Subject leaders
  - [http://www.ase.org.uk/resources/primary/](http://www.ase.org.uk/resources/primary/)
- Health and Safety

### Resources to support your science subject leaders to address the key issues raised in the report.

- Assessment support
  - STAR materials are coming Sept 2016 along with training materials
- Planning support
  - [https://www.stem.org.uk/primary-science](https://www.stem.org.uk/primary-science)
- Science CPD and science week
- Awards to celebrate excellent teaching in science
  - [https://www.stem.org.uk/news/don’t-miss-your-chance-be-celebrated](https://www.stem.org.uk/news/don’t-miss-your-chance-be-celebrated)

- Ideas for transition projects

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While the vast majority of schools were spending 4 hours or more each week teaching English and mathematics, none devoted a similar time to teaching science, the third core subject on the primary curriculum. Around two thirds indicated that they spent between 1 and 2 hours a week on science teaching. However, for around a fifth of the schools, less than an hour was given to learning the subject. In one case, pupils said that they couldn’t remember the last time they had had a science lesson.

Nonetheless, HMI found that the quality of science teaching was variable and that there was a link between teachers’ subject knowledge and how well pupils were developing their scientific skills.

Schools must work more effectively together across the phases to ensure that pupils move seamlessly from primary to secondary, building on and quickly extending the knowledge and understanding of the scientific method necessary to study science successfully.