



*Theme: Science Education in Northern Ireland*

12.45pm Registration/Exhibition and Lunchtime Refreshments – Member's Dining Room / The Long Gallery

2.00pm – 5.30pm: Speeches and Panel Q&As – The Long Gallery

2.00pm Welcome: **Dr Steve Aiken OBE MLA**, Chair, All-Party Group on STEM

2.05pm Introduction and Welcome: **Professor Gill Reid**, President of the Royal Society of Chemistry

2.15pm Panel 1: Chair, Dr Marie Cowan

**Dr Marie Cowan**, Director Geological Survey Northern Ireland, and Panel Sessions Chair:

2.20pm

**Beverley McCormick**

Associate Course Director, PGCE Primary Course, Ulster University  
*Making primary science a success*

**Gerry Campbell**

CEO, Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment  
*Skills development through the NI curriculum and qualifications system*

**Dr Caroline Greer**

Chair, Association for Science Education, Northern Ireland

and **Dr Patrick Shevlin**

President, Association for Science Education, Northern Ireland

*Supporting Improvements in science education*

**Dr Diane Lees-Murdock**

Senior Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences, Ulster University; Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

3.05pm Q&A

3.20pm Royal Society of Biology Outreach Awards

3.25pm Tea Break

4.00pm Panel 2: Chair, Dr Marie Cowan

**Professor Philip Hanna**

Dean of Education, School of Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Queen's University, Belfast

*Beyond Automation: Reframing STEM Education in the AI Era*

**Dr Frances Weldon**

STEM Outreach Manager, Almac

*Harnessing STEAM to power in the 10x Economy*

**Professor Carol McGuinness**

Professor Emerita, Queen's University Belfast and Chair of the Member Board and Trustee of the British Psychological Society

*Skills and Key Competencies in a School Curriculum: International Perspectives*

**Professor Colin Turner**

Executive Dean for the Faculty of Computing, Engineering and the Built Environment, Ulster University and Chair of the IET Engineering Policy Group for Northern Ireland

5.00pm MLA Panel: Chair, Dr Marie Cowan

Including:

**Dr Steve Aiken OBE MLA**, Chair NI Assembly All-Party Group on STEM

Member for South Antrim

Chair All-Party Group on STEM

**Dr Caoimhe Archibald MLA**, Vice-Chair NI Assembly All-Party Group on STEM

Member for East Londonderry

Vice-Chair All-Party Group on STEM

**Sorcha Eastwood MLA**, Member, NI Assembly All-Party Group on STEM

Member for Lagan Valley

**Robbie Butler MLA**, Member, NI Assembly All-Party Group of STEM

Member for Lagan Valley

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5.25pm **Closing Remarks: Prof Gill Reid**

5.30pm – 7.30pm: Drinks Reception/Exhibition/Fork Buffet, Members' Dining Room / The Long Gallery