

2022 Microscopes4Schools Competition review infographic

Participation

We aim to target schools from disadvantaged areas with a high percentage of free school meals and low rates of participation in further education.



11 of the 18 schools* were new from across Cambridgeshire, Bedford and Peterborough.

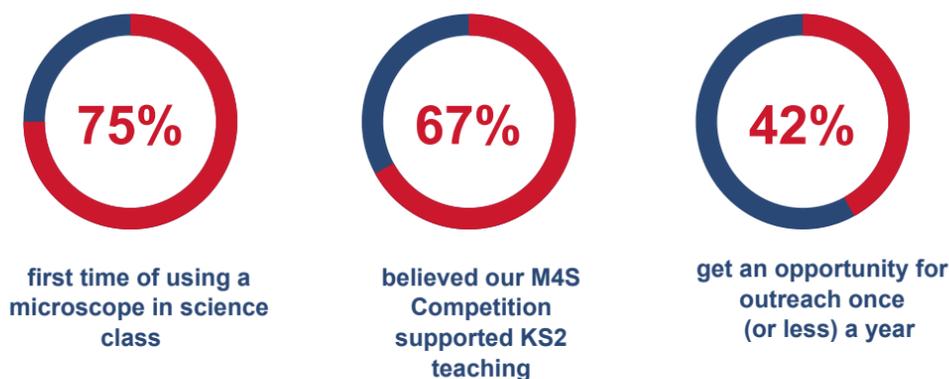
*7 schools were carried over from 2021 due to limitations during the pandemic



2 of the 18 schools were classified Special Schools (selected in 2022)

Feedback

(N = 12 of the 18 participating schools)



Reflections

- **Introduction of Meet the Scientists** session allowed scientists to take part with minimal time investment - how **real scientists used real equipment** was very **powerful for the children**.
- Pupils had **autonomy** to use a **piece of technology** that worked well for fantastic images.
- Gave **opportunity for rich discussion** around the biological samples and how the microscope works.

“ Such an amazing opportunity for our learners, and I was impressed with the way it was made accessible for our setting.”

Highfield Littleport Academy, Cambridgeshire (Special School)

“ Thank you! I know the children enjoyed using the microscope and found it fascinating to see the images they had taken.”

Lime Academy Parnwell, Peterborough

“ It was fab! The children loved using it and it was lovely and interactive.”

Kings Hedges Primary, Cambridge

Actions for 2023

- **Expand judging panel** - Meet the Researcher/Scientists, Dr Madeline Lancaster (LMB Cell Biology Division Group Leader) and Shraddha Nayak (LMB Head of Visual Communications) as well as technical expert, Prof. Brad Amos.
- **Expansion alongside continuous engagement** - new selection criteria based on % free school meals, POLAR4, TUNDRA, IMD and ethnicity data across selected local authorities of Bedford, Cambridgeshire, and Peterborough.
- **Align to KS2 level** - guide pupils towards their own discoveries and allow differentiated learning within classrooms - easy for teachers to accompany science classes across the academic year.

For more information, visit our [website](#) or scan here

- Pupils eligible for free school meals (%): <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk> Access via location.
- Participation of Local Areas (POLAR4) score: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/young-participation-by-area/search-by-postcode/> Access via postcode.
- Tracking underrepresentation by area (TUNDRA) score: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/data-and-analysis/young-participation-by-area/about-tundra/> Access via postcode.
- Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) quintile: http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/ioid_index.html# Access via postcode (look at 2019 data only which is most up-to-date at the time of this report).
- Special School: <https://www.gov.uk/types-of-school>

