

PSQM Press Release October 2025

School Awarded Primary Science Quality Mark

Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School is proud to announce that it is one of 310 schools that has been awarded the **Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM)** this month, a nationally recognised accreditation that celebrates a commitment to developing excellence in science leadership, curriculum design, teaching and learning.

Led by the University of Hertfordshire, for over a decade the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) has been setting children on a path to a life filled with exciting possibilities and opportunities, by giving them access to a strong foundation in quality primary science education. Over 5,800 Quality Marks have now been awarded, impacting on the learning of over 1,000,000 children.

PSQM is a comprehensive, year-long professional development programme that equips primary science subject leaders with the knowledge, capability and support needed to raise the quality and profile of science across the whole school. At the heart of the programme is a structured development cycle that embeds critical reflection and promotes a culture of continuous improvement.

Helen Sizer, PSQM Director said: 'By achieving The Primary Science Quality Mark, a school has shown commitment to raising the profile and quality of science education through the development of effective science leadership, visionary curriculum design and excellent teaching practice which is positively impacting on children's learning across the school. Such success is only possible through the collective effort of the whole school community, and all those involved should be incredibly proud of this achievement and the positive difference this is making to children's learning and understanding of the world around them.'

For more information, please contact:

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Notes to Editor

Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) Schools achieve a PSQM through a year-long professional development process, consisting of initial audit, followed by action and evidence-based reflection. For more information please visit: <https://go.herts.ac.uk/psqm>

About the University of Hertfordshire

Defined by the spirit of innovation and enterprise, the University of Hertfordshire has been an innovative, vocation-first educational force for more than 70 years.

From our start as a leading educator within Britain's aeronautical industry to our extensive offering today, we have always specialised in providing the environment and expertise needed to power every kind of potential.

For our thriving community of just under 32,000 students from over 140 countries, that means high-quality teaching from experts engaged in groundbreaking research with real-world impact. Access to over 550 career-focused degree options and a chance to study at more than 170 universities worldwide, using outstanding, true to life facilities. And industry connections that offer professional networking opportunities which take talents even further.

We are a university that never stands still. We champion social mobility and the drive to create personal and societal change. We celebrate those who break barriers. We nurture entrepreneurs and develop tomorrow's leaders, innovators and trailblazers in healthcare, education, business, science, humanities, law, sport, and creative arts. We partner with key employers, professional bodies, and government to ensure we are directly responding to real-world needs. We are a catalyst for change: empowering our community to make a radical impact in the region, across the UK and around the world.

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