

# ESB Science Blast 2019 - Key Information

The Royal Dublin Society (RDS), a registered charity, is responsible for the development and delivery of Science Blast and is committed to safeguarding children and creating a safe environment when they visit our event. A copy of our Child Safeguarding Statement is included in Appendix 1 and can be viewed at [www.rds.ie/childsafeguarding](http://www.rds.ie/childsafeguarding).

ESB Science Blast is run on a not-for-profit basis by the RDS to inspire primary school-aged children with the wonders of STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths). The aim of ESB Science Blast is to harness children's natural curiosity, help nurture the next generation of creative and critical thinkers and equip them with fundamental science skills; giving them skills for life, as well as opening up further education possibilities. The title sponsor of the event is the ESB and a full list of our sponsors and partners is available at [www.esbscienceblast.ie/partners](http://www.esbscienceblast.ie/partners).

The following Terms and Conditions are designed to ensure that ESB Science Blast is conducted as safely, fairly and as efficiently as possible and all attending the event are asked to read, understand and accept these terms.

## Entries and Eligibility for Science Blast:

1. All project entries must be submitted online at [www.esbscienceblast.com](http://www.esbscienceblast.com)
2. Science Blast takes place on one of the following dates:
  - Wednesday 06<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - RDS Simmonscourt, Dublin
  - Thursday 07<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - RDS Simmonscourt, Dublin
  - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 - Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
  - Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 - Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
  - Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019 - Mary Immaculate College, Limerick
  - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019 - Belfast Waterfront
  - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019- Belfast Waterfront
3. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and multigrade classes in the Republic of Ireland and Key Stage 2 students in Northern Ireland are eligible to participate at Science Blast.
4. Students must work as a class under the supervision of their teacher with, where appropriate, suitable levels of involvement by parents, guardians or other responsible adults. All members of the group should share the work and be familiar with all aspects of the project.
5. Each project exhibited must be the work of only one class. Those wishing to incorporate the work of a second class must submit a separate project application for each class.
6. Projects must seek to pose and answer a specific question that the class will investigate.
7. The emphasis of participation is on the development of children's core scientific, mathematical and personal/life skills as set out in the primary curriculum (ROI/NI) and on encouraging students to build, code, design or make something to use as part of their investigation.
8. Projects should clearly relate to the primary curriculum within the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland (ROI - Living Things, Energy and Forces, Materials, Environmental Awareness and Care; NI - The World Around Us; ROI/NI - Maths and Numeracy; Using ICT)
9. Projects must not involve children ingesting sugary food/ drinks or a similar activity.
10. Students whose projects involve studies of live animals must ensure that such studies are carried out in accordance with the statutory regulations.

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11. Each participating group is required to complete a feedback survey following the Event. Where eligible, a travel fund contribution will be paid on completion of this survey.

### Attendance at Science Blast:

12. The organisers must be notified of any exhibiting group who are unable to attend the event. Failure to notify the organisers of a withdrawal in good time prevents the reallocation of the stand to another school and causes disappointment for other schools and the visiting public.
13. Sufficient numbers of teachers/supervisors must accompany exhibiting groups.
14. All teachers must register their group on arrival at the event before setting up their stand.
15. All stands must be set up by 9.30am on the morning of the Fair. No project can be taken down until the Fair closes at 3.00pm.
16. Exhibiting groups will receive a badge and wristband for each participant which must be worn at all times.
17. A picnic area will be available for students with packed lunches.

### Exhibition Stands:

18. Exhibiting groups should present a visual display that is bright, colourful and easy to read and which reflects the approach outlined in the Science Blast Planning Framework. Students are encouraged to use pictures, charts, diagrams, models, interactive exhibits etc. to communicate their work.
19. Exhibiting groups should keep the dimensions of the exhibition stand in mind when designing their display. The back display panel is **2m wide by 1.2m high** and the worktop is **3m wide by 0.5m deep**.
20. Wireless internet will be available, where possible, at each venue.
21. A single socket power source will be available at each stand. Exhibiting groups are advised to bring their own extension cables if required.
22. Exhibits must be safely designed and constructed and must not use as part of the display: any dangerous equipment or open flames; any toxic, flammable, explosive or irritant chemicals; any pathogenic, toxigenic or allergenic organism (animals/insects, plant or microorganisms); sharp objects such as syringes or needles; or agar plates containing micro-organisms.
23. Live mammals, birds, amphibians or reptiles may not be presented in exhibits.
24. Exhibiting groups are asked to refrain, where possible, from using brand names of firms/sponsors in their display or in the title of their project.
25. Representatives of each exhibiting group must remain at their stands during the event to speak with the visiting public and judges about their projects.
26. There must be an adult present at each project stand at all times.
27. Exhibiting groups will be responsible for transporting their projects to and from the Science Blast within the time allocated and supplying any necessary apparatus/mountings used for the display of their projects.
28. Exhibiting groups should mark their name on all equipment, charts, project report books etc. and are strongly advised to remove valuables from unattended stands.
29. Science Blast will not accept responsibility for damage to, or loss of, projects or personal belongings.
30. Projects are the property of the exhibitors but may be used by the RDS for exhibition or publication.

*ESB Science Blast, Science Department, RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.*

*Tel: +353 (0) 1 240 7990 (ROI) or 0345 2661897 (NI), Email: [scienceblast@rds.ie](mailto:scienceblast@rds.ie)*

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## Judging:

31. Science Blast is non-competitive, but constructive feedback is provided to students and their teachers following discussion of the project with a Judge at the event.
32. The judges will visit each stand during Science Blast to talk to students about their project between 10.00am – 2pm.
33. Judges will be interested to find out how the class approached their investigation and will be interested to see:
  - Evidence of child-led investigation and teamwork;
  - Evidence of students' skills development;
  - Evidence of building, coding, designing or making and
  - Presentation/visual impact of the display.
34. All participating schools will be presented with a school trophy to acknowledge the work presented by the school at Science Blast.

## Capture and Use of Images:

35. It is the RDS's policy that where RDS may capture and use an image (photography or videography), consent is obtained as per Appendix 2 and 3.
36. It is recommended that participating schools (teachers, adults, and children) are aware of and adhere to the RDS Code of Behaviour for Interacting with Children/Young People at Science Blast (Appendix 4)

# ESB Science Blast 2019 - Key Information

## Appendix 1 - Child Safeguarding Statement

The RDS has a Child Safeguarding Statement. This version has been prepared for Science Blast.

The RDS is responsible for the development and delivery of Science Blast. Science Blast is a programme for primary school-aged children to develop and showcase their class work. It seeks to create a positive learning environment for children.

The RDS is committed to safeguarding children and creating a safe environment.

The responsibility for children rests with their supervising adult, e.g. teacher, parent or guardian.

The RDS has completed a risk assessment for Science Blast.

The RDS has procedures in place to keep children safe from harm in line with the Children First Act 2015. The Act defines harm of a child as ill treatment, neglect, assault, or sexual abuse, and explains what to do if you are concerned.

RDS staff are trained in how to respond to Child Protection concerns and there is a Child Protection Officer on site. The RDS has a mandated person.

The RDS has strong governance structures in place.

This statement will be reviewed every 2 years.

Jill McMorrow is the Mandated Person for the RDS and can be contacted by email at [safeguarding@rds.ie](mailto:safeguarding@rds.ie) or by mobile at 087 2034590 if you have queries or concerns in relation to Child Safeguarding.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

MICHAEL DUFFY  
Chief Executive, RDS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ESB Science Blast 2019 - Key Information

## Appendix 2 - RDS Data and Image Information (Children under 18 years)

Dear Parent / Guardian,

We are contacting you as your child's school is participating in ESB Science Blast. The Royal Dublin Society (RDS), a registered charity, is responsible for the development and delivery of Science Blast and is committed to safeguarding children and creating a safe environment when they visit our event.

### ABOUT THE EVENT

ESB Science Blast is run on a not-for-profit basis by the RDS to inspire primary school-aged children with the wonders of STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths). The aim of ESB Science Blast is to harness children's natural curiosity, help nurture the next generation of creative and critical thinkers and equip them with fundamental science skills; giving them skills for life, as well as opening up further education possibilities. The title sponsor of the event is the ESB and a full list of our sponsors and partners is available at [www.esbscienceblast.ie/partners](http://www.esbscienceblast.ie/partners).

### ABOUT IMAGE CONSENT

- When your child attends the ESB Science Blast, the RDS or a third party authorised by the RDS may capture data and take photographs and videography, or record quotes of your child.
- ESB Science Blast is a public event, as such, your child may be filmed, photographed or otherwise recorded by the RDS and any third party authorised by the RDS due to their attendance.
- Media (broadcast or print) and public visitors attend the events and may capture images of (photography or videography) or data from (quotes, interviews) children.

The images resulting from the photography, videography or recordings and any reproductions or adaptations of same may be used to promote the programme, especially to other primary schools who might consider participating the following year. You can see an example of how we use such imagery and data on [www.esbscienceblast.ie](http://www.esbscienceblast.ie). Because this could potentially be your child that is participating in/attending we ask all parents/guardians to fill out a consent form.

All imagery is used in accordance with the RDS Privacy Policy which is available at [www.rds.ie/privacy](http://www.rds.ie/privacy) or by emailing [privacy@rds.ie](mailto:privacy@rds.ie).

**EACH CHILD MUST RETURN A COPY OF THIS FORM SIGNED BY THE PARENT/GUARDIAN TO THEIR SCHOOL PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN OR ATTENDING THE ESB SCIENCE BLAST EVENT.**

- Please review and complete the form attached and return to your child's school
- If you have any queries please contact us on 0345 2661897 (NI) or +353 1 2407990 (ROI), or email [scienceblast@rds.ie](mailto:scienceblast@rds.ie)
- You can view the RDS Safeguarding Statement and RDS Code of Behaviour for ESB Science Blast at [www.rds.ie/childsafeguarding](http://www.rds.ie/childsafeguarding)

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# ESB Science Blast 2019 - Key Information

## RDS Data and Image Consent Form for ESB Science Blast (Children under 18 years)

It is the Royal Dublin Society's policy that where we may capture and use an image (photography or videography) or data (name, quotes, testimonials), consent must be obtained by the appropriate person as set out in this consent form. The purpose of this consent form is to provide information for the person giving consent, so they can make an informed decision. We use imagery and data in a range of materials to promote and publicise the RDS and ESB Science Blast. Promotional use includes (but is not limited to) posters, leaflets, brochures, adverts, display materials, emails, e-newsletters, blogs, web pages, social media posts, presentations, speeches, research or policy reports, press releases or other materials.

All imagery and data are used in accordance with the RDS Privacy Notice, which is available on the RDS website at [www.rds.ie/privacy](http://www.rds.ie/privacy). You should read it carefully before completing this form.

The following is to be completed by the person with parental responsibility for the child participating in/attending ESB Science Blast.

### Consent

The RDS may capture and use imagery or data that may include below-named child, including using the child's name where appropriate.

- I agree for my child's (for whom I have parental responsibility) information, photographs and video – as set out above – to be potentially used by the RDS.
- RDS may share your child's data with Science Blast title sponsor ESB, and other Science Blast partner organisations listed at [www.esbscienceblast.ie/partners](http://www.esbscienceblast.ie/partners) in printed, online or electronic publications, which may be shared publicly to promote and publicise ESB Science Blast. You should carefully read the privacy notices of our Partners and Sponsors before you complete this form.
- I understand that I and/or my child do not own the copyright or have any rights of ownership or other claims over the photographs, video or audio recordings, quotes and information about me or the child for whom I have parental responsibility.
- I understand that any information about myself and/or the child for whom I have parental responsibility will be kept securely and will only be used for the stated purposes. However, the RDS cannot guarantee or be held liable for use of this information or image by a third party.
- I understand that I can withdraw consent at any time by contacting the RDS. If I withdraw consent, the RDS will no longer use any information provided previously. However, I understand that it may not be possible to recall/retrieve published materials that already include my or my child's information.
- This consent, unless withdrawn, applies for three years from the date below.

Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Consenting parent's / legal guardian's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for helping us.

# ESB Science Blast 2019 - Key Information

## Appendix 3 - RDS Data and Image Information (Adults 18 years+)

Dear Teacher / Guest,

We are contacting you as you will be attending or participating in ESB Science Blast. The Royal Dublin Society (RDS), a registered charity, is responsible for the development and delivery of Science Blast and is committed to safeguarding children and creating a safe environment when they visit our event.

### ABOUT THE EVENT

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### ABOUT IMAGE CONSENT

- When you attend ESB Science Blast, the RDS or a third party authorised by the RDS may capture data and take photographs and videography, or record quotes from you.
- ESB Science Blast is a public event, as such, you may be filmed, photographed or otherwise recorded by the RDS and any third party authorised by the RDS due to your attendance.
- Media (broadcast or print) and public visitors attend the events and may capture images of (photography or videography) or data from (quotes, interviews) you.

The images resulting from the photography, videography or recordings and any reproductions or adaptations of same may be used to promote the programme, especially to other primary schools who might consider participating the following year. You can see an example of how we use such imagery and data on [www.esbscienceblast.ie](http://www.esbscienceblast.ie). Because this could potentially be you that is participating/attending we ask all teachers/guests to fill out a consent form.

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**EACH ADULT WITH YOUR GROUP MUST RETURN A SIGNED COPY OF THIS FORM TO THE RDS PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING IN OR ATTENDING ESB SCIENCE BLAST.**

- Please review and complete the form attached and return to the RDS
- If you have any queries please contact us on 0345 2661897 (NI) or +353 1 2407990 (ROI), or email [scienceblast@rds.ie](mailto:scienceblast@rds.ie)
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All imagery and data are used in accordance with the RDS Privacy Notice, which is available on the RDS website at [www.rds.ie/privacy](http://www.rds.ie/privacy). You should read it carefully before completing this form.

The following is to be completed by the person participating in/attending ESB Science Blast.

### **Consent**

The RDS may capture and use my imagery or data, including using my name where appropriate.

- I agree for my information, photographs and video - as set out above - to be potentially used by the RDS.
- RDS may share your data with Science Blast title sponsor ESB, and other Science Blast partner organisations listed at [www.esbscienceblast.ie/partners](http://www.esbscienceblast.ie/partners) in printed, online or electronic publications, which may be shared publicly to promote and publicise ESB Science Blast. You should carefully read the privacy notices of our Partners and Sponsors before you complete this form.
- I understand that I do not own the copyright or have any rights of ownership or other claims over the photographs, video or audio recordings, quotes and information about me.
- I understand that any information about me will be kept securely and will only be used for the stated purposes. However, the RDS cannot guarantee or be held liable for use of this information or image by a third party.
- I understand that I can withdraw consent at any time by contacting the RDS. If I withdraw consent, the RDS will no longer use any information provided previously. However, I understand that it may not be possible to recall/retrieve published materials that already include my information.
- This consent, unless withdrawn, applies for three years from the date below.

**Adult Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class Year:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for helping us.

# ESB Science Blast 2019 - Key Information

## Appendix 4 - Code of Behaviour (Conduct) for Interacting with Children/Young People at Science Blast

The purpose of a code of behaviour is to establish acceptable boundaries of behaviour and to clarify how to communicate/interact with children and young people in a way which respects their right to be listened to, valued, respected as individuals and treated fairly. While recognising that the primary responsibility for children rests with parents, guardians or supervising adults (e.g. teachers), the RDS is committed to safeguarding children and young people who participate in or visit projects and events organised by the Society. Breaches of the code of behaviour will be treated seriously. This code of behaviour will be displayed on the RDS website.

For the protection of all concerned, when interacting with children/young people, please be mindful of the following guidelines (this list is by no means exhaustive):

- always prioritise the safety and wellbeing of the child at all times;
- always act within professional boundaries - ensure all contact with children is essential to the programme / project / activity you are working on.
- RDS staff must use RDS owned equipment when interacting with children, the use of personal phones or personal cameras is not permitted;
- you should not take or use photographs of children without prior written consent from a parent/guardian;
- never lose sight of the fact that you are with children - behave appropriately and use appropriate language at all times;
- do not verbally chastise a child in an aggressive manner, avoid shouting or using a harsh tone of voice;
- while physical contact is a valid way of comforting, reassuring and showing concern for children, it should only take place when it is acceptable to all persons concerned (generally, the consent of the child should be sought in relation to physical contact). It should only be in response to the needs of the child and should be appropriate to the age and the level of development of the child. There may be times in an emergency or a dangerous situation where there is unavoidable physical contact e.g. to prevent physical injury of the child/other children/visitors or staff/yourself or to prevent damage to valuable property);
- no child should ever be physically punished. The RDS will not tolerate the physical chastisement of children by a parent or accompanying adult;
- do not single out a particular child for unfair criticism, favouritism or ridicule;
- treat children and young persons with dignity, sensitivity and respect;
- remember they are children first, and contributors or participants second.

It is recommended that you:

- do not travel alone with children or young people (two adults, one of which must be female should accompany a child). If a child is lost or left unattended, you should approach the child, explain calmly to them who you are. He/she should be accompanied by the two adults to the designated lost children's area or the Gardai if they are on the premises. If there is no designated lost children's area or Gardai, the child should be accompanied to the organiser's office or customer service area. Contact with the parent should be attempted if the child knows the telephone number);
- do not attend to any intimate care of children, such as toileting. This is the responsibility of the accompanying parent, caregiver or supervisor (e.g. teacher);

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- do not spend time with a child on his/her own. If you find yourself in a situation where you are alone with a child, ensure that you can be clearly observed or seen by others.

Ultimately, if you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or feel someone is behaving inappropriately around children, you have a duty to report your concern to the RDS Designated Liaison Person (Child Protection Officer) – Jill McMorrow. Contact at [safeguarding@rds.ie](mailto:safeguarding@rds.ie) or on 087 2034 590. All reported concerns will be treated in confidence.

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### CONFIRMATION

I confirm I have read the RDS Code of Behaviour and agree to observe these guidelines when interacting with children and young persons at Science Blast.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_