The “Talking Science Education” debate returns to ASE 2016. Chaired by Claire Fox, how to raise the professional status of teachers will be discussed in this lively and topical debate.

The Royal Society, STEM Learning and the Wellcome Trust have come together to generate debate on the issues important to all within the science education sector.

Come along and join us for a glass of wine and debate on Thursday 07 January at 4pm in room G17, Nuffield Building.
Introducing the panel

Claire Fox is the Director of the Institute of Ideas, which she established to create a public space where ideas can be contested without constraint. She is a panellist on BBC Radio 4’s Moral Maze and convenes the yearly Battle of Ideas festival at the Barbican (22–23 October 2016) and initiated The Institute of Ideas Debating Matters Competition for 6th formers. She is a columnist for TES (Times Education Supplement) and MJ (Municipal Journal).

Dame Kate Dethridge has been the headteacher of Churchend Academy, Reading, which has been judged ‘outstanding’ by Ofsted in 2005 and 2008. Kate is a National Leader of Education, a member of Ofsted’s Headteacher Reference Group and the Department for Education Bureaucracy Reference Group and in addition is an associate director of the National Education Trust. She is an executive board member of the Free Schools and Academies Network and has held six executive headships to support local schools in difficulty.

Russell Hobby is General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers. NAHT is the largest union for school leaders in the UK, representing over 28,500 members in every phase of education. Before taking up this post in 2010, Russell worked as a management consultant and in the software industry. Russell is also a trustee of the Brilliant Club, Teaching Leaders and the Teacher Development Trust. He is a member of the advisory board of Future Leaders, the management board for NAHT Edge and the Independent State School Partnership forum.

Colin Inglis is a firm advocate of students being involved with ‘real research’ on real problems. He received a Royal Society Partnership grant for the project ‘Essential oils as antimicrobial agents’, which exhibited at the Society’s Summer Science Exhibition in 2013. The students involved extended the project to include the whole curriculum and also took their work into primary schools. He has been teaching at Boroughbridge High School since 2005, and in July this year Colin was awarded the European ‘Science On Stage’ award in the innovative teaching category, for ‘Natural alternatives to antibiotics; scientifically sound or muddled myth’.

Rachel Tuffin OBE has an extensive career in research and policing, having worked for the National Policing Improvement Agency, the University of East London and the Home Office — which included a role coordinating the evacuation of refugees from Kosovo. She was awarded an OBE in 2013 for services to policing, specifically championing evidence-based policing. Rachel is now Executive Lead for the What Works Centre for Crime Reduction and gathers, builds and shares evidence for professional development at the College of Policing.