

## **Addressing the Earth Science Needs of Secondary Science Teachers - an INSET Programme at Minimal Cost**

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Earth science is taught in secondary schools (for 11 - 16 year olds) in England and Wales as part of the National Science curriculum. Research has shown that the majority of teachers teaching the Earth science have very poor Earth Science backgrounds and many have misconceptions about the Earth science they teach. Further research has shown that the Earth science content of many science syllabuses, examinations and textbooks in England and Wales contain error and oversimplifications in their Earth science content.

The Earth Science Education Unit, supported by UKOOA (the UK Offshore Operators Association) has recently been set up in the Education Department at Keele University to redress these problems. In-Service Education and Training (INSET) in Earth science is offered to schools and other institutions at minimal cost. Early feedback on the workshops being offered is very positive.