

## EXPLORER DOME: A BRIEF BACKGROUND



Shaaron Leverment and Ben Brown established Explorer Dome way back in 1998 to tour schools and colleges across the South West. We wrote a core series of lively, interactive [science shows](#), most of which take place inside our portable, inflatable planetarium.

Our shows aim to engage and inspire children of all ages, genders, abilities, beliefs and backgrounds. As outreach providers, we aim to be affordable for schools and we travel to a wide variety of places, from rural village primaries to large city academies. We also enjoy setting up our presentations and workshops for brownies and scouts, science centres and museums, science fairs and festivals and work with universities and local organisations at teacher training events and adult education.

Over 50,000 adults and children experience Explorer Dome every year and demand is continuing to grow. We have a reputation for professional, high quality, scientifically accurate, enthusiastic, interactive presentations and always train our presenters in inclusive science communication.

**We are looking for new, part time science presenters to join our team.**

Explorer Dome  
Mailbox 42, 179 Whiteladies Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2AG  
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## EXPLORER DOME: DAY TO DAY



### 1. **Learning, rehearsing and presenting the shows.**

Shows last 40-50 minutes and are developed for specific ages, from infants to A-Level. They cover a variety of science subjects including Space, Light, Sound, the Body, Forces the Environment and Water (and more!). They all involve hands-on activities, opportunity for questions and interaction and aim to make sure that every child feels welcome and confident to get involved.

You will need to learn the shows first! We will provide you with scripts and opportunities to go into school with other presenters to learn how to work with the equipment, demonstrations and different audiences. When you are confident, you can take on sections of the show until you are ready to become a lead presenter. Once you are happy with your first show you will start to learn more and more. You are encouraged to develop your own wording and presentation style as you feel more comfortable with the way we work. Your unique interests and personality will be what makes your shows so engaging!

### 2. **Driving, setting up, operating and caring for the planetarium and other equipment.**

Working with a co-presenter, you and your colleague are responsible for picking up and getting the equipment to the school in one of our Explorer Dome 'star' vans. You will need to find your way into the appropriate venue, set up the equipment up correctly and safely and, after the shows have finished, take it all down and pack up at the end of the day

### 3. **Awareness of the needs of schools and visitors.**

Ensuring that each visit runs smoothly to the school's satisfaction is your responsibility on the day and requires excellent respect for the school environment, the hard work of the teachers and the individual needs of the different children. Developing that ongoing awareness to provide an excellent day for the children coming into the dome and the school as a whole, is a real priority.

### 4. **Developing and adapting the shows.**

You will need to learn our outline show scripts, but presenters' creative input is vital in maintaining show quality and keeping things fresh. Ongoing training and CPD is an important part of what we do. Through meetings, training and social events we are keen to encourage opportunities to explore excellent ideas and new shows that enhance the business and the skills of our science team.

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## EXPLORER DOME: FREELANCE PRESENTERS AND PAY

Explorer Dome presenters work part-time as freelance, self-employed science communicators. We can help you navigate setting up as self-employed, so this shouldn't be a barrier for your application.

On average, we work across the term, 2 to 4 days a week by arrangement depending on your availability. Most of our work is in school term time. During school holidays we visit play-schemes and family events, but there is less work, so it is important that Explorer Dome is not your only source of income.

It's all pretty simple. You provide us with your availability for work for the month or so ahead, and we will slot you in for appropriate training and working days as the school and public bookings come in.

Pay usually starts at £70/day. With increasing competence, time with us and the number of different shows you can present, pay continues to increase, rising to £100/day+. If you have a particularly early start, an excessively long day, more than 5 shows on 1 day, a stay-over or you travel to 2 schools on the same day your day rate is also more.

There are periods of training - particularly at the beginning, but also throughout your time with us at Explorer Dome as you learn new skills, shows and take part in ongoing CPD opportunities. As self-employed freelancers your training should be at your cost, but we do provide a stipend of £60/day!

**Any queries? Please get in touch!**

