

Should my school join the science Olympiads?

1.

Ask yourself why do you want your students to join the science Olympiads?

2.

Get to know the science Olympiads:

Which Olympiad?

Based on age and qualification:

Lower, general science - IJSO
Higher, subject-specific - IPhO, IMO,
IChO, IBO

Logistics of the Olympiad

When is it held? Where is it held?
Who is country coordinator?

Academics of the Olympiad

What and how will the students be tested on?

Identify the gap between what the students already know versus what they need to know

3.

Get to know your students, their parents, fellow teachers and administrators:

Will participation in the science Olympiads be counted as an **extra-curricular activity** OR **academic enrichment**?

Will participation in the science Olympiads be **one-off** (short term) OR becomes a **sustained school tradition** (long term)?

What are the **expectations** of the school administrators, fellow teachers and parents towards the science Olympiads?
Positive, neutral or negative.

Participation in the science Olympiads demands **financial commitment** for fees and training camps. Can you secure it?

Participation in the science Olympiads demands **academic investment** i.e. teachers must be trained, parents must be encouraged. Can you secure it?

4.

Laying the groundwork:

BASIC.

Appoint a permanent teacher as contact person/trainer for students interested in science Olympiads. This is so that students know who to contact, and we know who to contact from the school.

INTERMEDIATE.

Form a club dedicated to science Olympiads so that seniors and juniors can train together and help improve each other.

ADVANCED.

Get in touch with the committee and request teacher to be a meet of the committee as observer, junior trainer, then senior trainer.

5.

Models to introduce science Olympiads in schools:

Olympiad as an academic club.

Olympiad as an elective subject.

Olympiad integrated into the school syllabus