



## Throwing Light on the Human Genome

By Professor Wendy Bickmore

We now know the sequence of the 3,000 million bases (As, Gs, Ts and Cs) of DNA that make up the human genome. However, we are far from understanding how our genome works. Each of your cells contains enough DNA to stretch from your head to your toe, yet it is contained within a space smaller than a pinhead. How the DNA is folded up in the cell can control how the genome works. Therefore understanding the packing of the genome is as important as knowing its sequence.

Professor Bickmore will reveal how we can investigate the human genome in its real biological context - the cell, using multi-coloured microscopy. Find out how fluorescent colours are being used to allow us to see the genome down the microscope and even to watch how it moves in the living cell.

This talk is suitable for students in S5 and S6.

Professor Wendy Bickmore is a senior scientist at the Medical Research Council's Human Genetics Unit in Edinburgh.

### Curriculum Links

- **Higher Biology: Cell Biology; Genetics and Adaptation**
- **Advanced Higher Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology**

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