

***Interactive comment on* “Transforming school students’ aspirations into destinations through extended interaction with cutting-edge research: “Physics Research in School Environments”” by Martin O. Archer et al.**

Anonymous Referee #2

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Many thanks to authors for all of their efforts in putting together this interesting piece of research. I am sure that many of those working in Outreach and Public Engagement in HE could use some elements of this article for their own benefit. That said there are few elements I ask to authors to review. These comments should be seen as constructive and should really enhance the current structure of the article

1. The Theory of Change (ToC) presented reads well and it follows very closely the Theory of Change published by Davenport et al 2020., in terms of identified audiences, causal paths and terminology. I recommend a more explicit acknowledgement by the

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authors to Davenport et al 2020. Where I think there is room for improvement is to explain or summarise and assumptions and barriers that often accompany a ToC, as throughout the paper some of these emerge (e.g - researchers or institutional buy-in a barrier to your ToC). Finally the ToC description needs a bit more details. For instance what is the meaning of the different shades of the same colour

2. The framework as well described by the authors, feels disconnected from the ToC and more references throughout the text should be made to the ToC especially in section 2.3 and 2.4 For example line 230 to 245 , removal of barriers, involvement of teachers etc, really highlight that these are aspects of your ToC.

3. Even though the PRISE framework has been presented as scalable, what are the lessons learnt by the authors? what are the recommendations to other practitioners in the field? Adding a few paragraphs in the conclusions, or even some bullet points, would address not only the scalability of PRISE but the transferability of PRISE to another subject or institution (e.g. - produce a detailed guide for students and teachers, etc)

I believe that addressing these point would really enhance an already good piece of research.

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