

PS047 - CLEAPSS services for trainee teachers

What is CLEAPSS?

CLEAPSS is an advisory service supporting the teaching of *practical* science, D&T and art in schools and colleges from nursery through to GCE A-level or equivalent.

CLEAPSS advice covers many aspects of practical science and technology, including:

- guidance and training on how to carry out effective experiments and demonstrations - safely
- guidance on all aspects of health and safety in school science, D&T and art
- how to use particular pieces of apparatus
- how to look after various species of animals or plants.

What services are available?

We offer a number of services.

- A large range of publications, including termly newsletters, handbooks, guides, and leaflets
- A **Helpline** that can be contacted by phone or e-mail (we take ~ 7,000 calls per year).
- Training courses covering hands-on practical science, design and technology, and art, as well as health and safety (we run around 200 courses each year, at various locations around the country)
- On behalf of members, we liaise with many other organisations, including the HSE and DfE

As a trainee teacher, the first three of these services are likely to be of most immediate interest to you.

As a trainee teacher, what is my entitlement to CLEAPSS services?

If you are doing your teaching practice in a school that is a member of CLEAPSS (as almost all are), or if the establishment at which you are doing your training is a member, you have the same access as any other member of staff.

If you contact us by 'phone or e-mail we will ask you for the postcode of your school or training provider so that can check that you are entitled to our services.

Who pays for CLEAPSS?

CLEAPSS is a membership organisation. It is open to schools, and groups of school, but not generally to individuals. Once a school or organisation is a member, any staff can use all of the CLEAPSS services.

At the time of writing, 175 out of 182 local authorities in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the various islands are members of CLEAPSS*. This means that in those authorities all staff members in all local authority maintained schools have access to our services with no additional charge.

In addition, almost all independent, foundation and voluntary-aided schools and incorporated colleges subscribe directly (as associate members) or receive our services via a local authority. The great majority of academies are also members, many subscribing through a local authority, the remainder subscribing directly. Virtually all teacher-training establishments that offer science courses are associate members.

Overall, 98% of all secondary schools are members of CLEAPSS

[*A sister organisation, SSERC, operates exclusively in Scotland.]

Can I use the CLEAPSS Helpline?

If you are in a member school or college, yes, you are entitled to use the **Helpline**.

If you want to know a safe way of carrying out the thermite reaction or whether particular glues are suitable for use by children at Key Stage 1 we will happily deal with your enquiry. If your question is more about the benefits of the national curriculum or a specific aspect of pedagogy, then that is outside our remit.

