

Supporting practical science, D&T and art - in secondary schools and colleges

Reasons for belonging to CLEAPSS

Health and Safety at work - Employers' statutory legal responsibilities

CLEAPSS membership enables employers to discharge their responsibilities under the *Health and Safety at Work Act* and subsequent Regulations. These require employers to protect their employees by, for example, providing safe working conditions, information, training for health and safety, and (model) risk assessments for activities (required under a range of regulations, including COSHH).

CLEAPSS advice and documentation is recognised by the Health and Safety Executive and the Department for Education as the definitive basis for safe practice in practical work in schools and colleges.

In the absence of CLEAPSS membership the employer, be it the governors or trustees, must consider how to fulfil its duties under the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act and its subsequent regulations. CLEAPSS membership provides a one stop shop approach to satisfying the school's responsibilities in relation to the teaching of science, design & technology, food and art and design.

CLEAPSS is about so much more than health and safety

CLEAPSS provides support and advice to teachers, technicians, head teachers and governors/trustees on how best to use high quality practical work to support pupils learning in science, design & technology, food and, most recently, art & design.

CLEAPSS resources give teachers ideas for exciting and engaging practical activities that fire pupils' imaginations and then, unlike many other sources of ideas, go on to show teachers and technicians in detail how to translate the ideas into safe and exciting experiences in the classroom.

Membership benefits include:-

- **CLEAPSS telephone and e-mail helpline:-** Access throughout the year (not just term time) to a team of dedicated subject experts for up-to-the-minute advice and support.
- **Termly newsletter** for all member primary & secondary schools which provides a range of information on practical work in science and technology and on current health and safety issues.
- **CLEAPSS web site** (www.cleapss.org.uk) which makes advice and guidance for science, D&T and art & design, available to all relevant staff on demand, subject to user log-in details. CLEAPSS is committed to regular review of these resources so that they always offer members the most up to date advice.
- **CLEAPSS You-tube channel:-** Short video clips showing teachers and technicians how to carry out practical activities in a way that works and is safe.
- **Hazcards and Recipe Sheets:-** Hazcards are COSHH assessments carried out for your science department, and the recipe sheets detail how to make best use of these chemicals.
- **Model Risk Assessments for Design & Technology:-** indispensable for D&T department staff.
- **Advice on equipment and facilities:-** Independent advice on all aspects of the design and equipping of specialist accommodation for science, D&T, food and art.
- **CPD courses:-** Access to an extensive range of one-day practical science/DT and health and safety training courses delivered by CLEAPSS advisers both online and face to face.
- **Radiation protection legislation:** A school which has CLEAPSS membership can also subscribe to the CLEAPSS Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA) service through a participating local authority or other brokering organisation. This is a very cost effective way for employers to meet their legal responsibilities under the Ionising Radiation Regulations (2017).

Examples of CLEAPSS CPD courses for Teachers & Technicians

Microbiology – Anti microbials	Auditing Science Departments for Safety Officers/ Senior Science technicians/ Head of Department
Microbiology - Serial Dilutions & Fungi	Audit training for D&T, Food and Art departments (online)
Introduction to Supporting Physics Teaching	Radiation Protection Supervisor training (online)
Supporting Safe & Successful Classroom Physics	Technical Support for Microbiology Theory Course (Online)
Radiation Protection Supervisor Training	Health & safety in Design Technology self-study course (online)
Introduction to supporting Biology & Chemistry teaching	Health & safety for Science technicians follow on (online)
Safety with Chemicals for Technicians	D&T Department Safety (Departmental course)
Reduced & micro scale chemistry (half day)	Practical Science in the primary classroom
Microscope Maintenance	Health & safety in Design Technology self-study course (online)
Safety Examination of Autoclaves etc.	Arduino workshop
Prep Room Management & H&S for Senior Science Technicians	
Health & Safety for Science Technicians	
Health & Safety Management for Heads of Science	
H&S in practical Science for early career teachers	

Excellent value for money

CLEAPSS membership might cost a typical secondary school £500 per year – In the absence of CLEAPSS support what could you buy with this money? – A day of support staff time to photocopy sets of Hazcards and/or recipe sheets (which you have ‘borrowed’ from a local school)? The cost for technical/legal advice in the event of an accident might easily run into several hundreds of pounds and could cost thousands; the services of a Radiation Protection Adviser typically cost £1000 a day.

Membership of CLEAPSS is best likened to *pro-active* insurance – actively reducing the chances of an accident or incident whilst at the same time promoting engaging practical activities for pupils.

If you would like to discuss CLEAPSS membership further please do not hesitate to contact me.



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