

Information on local authority membership of CLEAPSS

CLEAPSS is a local authority organisation. It is a consortium, and at present, all but two local authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are members.

CLEAPSS provides health and safety and curriculum, support and advice on using high quality practical work to teach pupils science, design and technology and art. Membership of CLEAPSS enables the local authority to discharge its responsibilities as the employer under the *Health and Safety at Work Act* and subsequent Regulations with respect to activities carried out in these specialist curriculum areas.. This legislation requires 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 guidance and documentation is recognised by the Health and Safety Executive and the Department for Education as providing current best practice advice, including model risk assessments to the school and college setting.

Membership provides local authority officers teachers, technicians, (and head teachers and governors) in member schools with access to the following CLEAPSS support:

- Access throughout the year (not just term time) to the CLEAPSS telephone and email *Helpline*.
- Access to the CLEAPSS web site which contains, among other things, the Secondary Resource (around 550 publications intended for secondary science, including the much valued Hazcards and Recipe Sheets); the D&T resource which includes the updated Model Risk Assessments for Technology; and the Primary Resource, which contains CLEAPSS primary science & Technology publications. CLEAPSS is committed to regular review and updating of these resources so that they always offer members the most up to date and relevant advice.
- Secondary and primary termly newsletters distributed free to all schools. These provide a range of information on practical work in science and technology and on current health and safety issues.
- Access to an extensive range of health and safety and other training courses at discounted rates.

In addition local authority officers have access to the CLEAPSS annual safety conference for local authority officers

A local authority can also subscribe to the CLEAPSS Radiation Protection Advice service on behalf of schools. This service is only available to member schools and provides an inexpensive response to the Ionising Radiations legislation.

All members have agreed to the CLEAPSS constitution which includes the agreement to give CLEAPSS a year's notice of withdrawal from the services. Notice of intention to withdraw should be given before the beginning of the CLEAPSS year (April 1st), Withdrawal during the year 2013/14 commits a local authority to pay subscriptions until the end of March 2015.