

Gonnae ðæ dae that

Myths about practical work – plus one or two things you definitely shouldn't do...

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Me being almost retired



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Warning!

I'll talk about certain situations and may mention some of the control measures involved.

These may not be the only control measures. Check our website.

Everything's banned

Sometimes new guidance gets mythologised into "it's banned".

E.g. energy limit for a VdG dome.



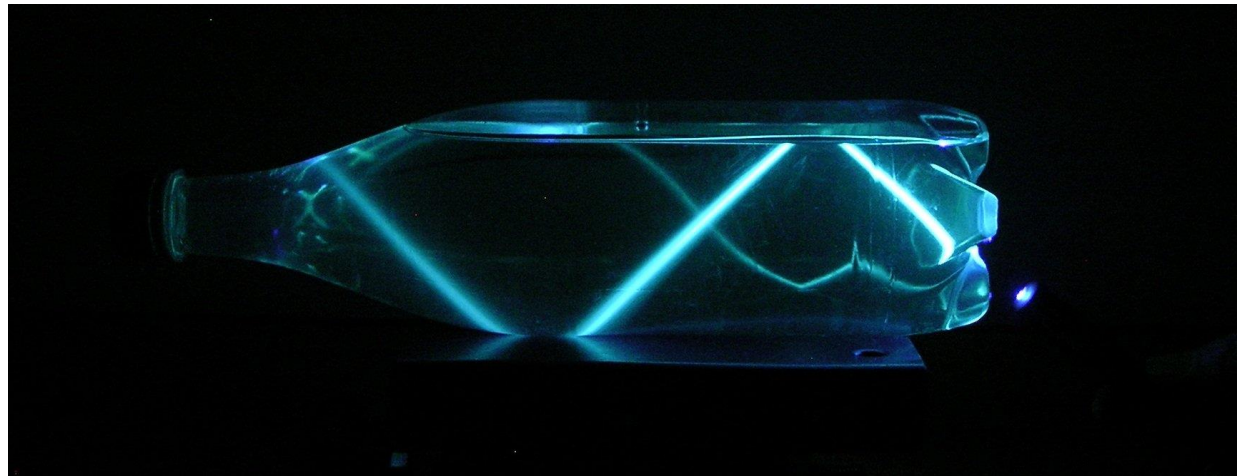
Computer simulations, anyone?



Well, maybe not everything but more things than when I started

Yes to more learners using lasers.

(But beware laser pointers)



Woman shoots friend while using gun's laser sight to play with cat

The injured man was charged for violating his own criminal bond by owning a firearm

Bigger is worse

It's not advisable to make assumptions...



Sometimes it's the law

Pressure systems,
Air weapons



Glowing reports

HSE inspections of schools -
Schools following SSERC guidance are
compliant.

NOT onerous to do so.

Vital for social media age?





The biggest myth of all – that it's health and safety that's stifling practical work

Teaching of science hit by health and safety fears

Thursday 20 September 2012

SCIENCE teaching in Scottish schools is being hampered by fears that it is too dangerous, parents have warned.

The Scottish Parent Teacher Council (SPTC) said exciting lessons when with chemicals had been phased out with growing health and safety concerns. Teaching unions echoed the concerns, arguing that lack of resources led to a reduction in practical experiments.

The comments came after the publication of a new report in the Education Scotland.

It stressed the importance of developing science teaching in relevant contexts.

"Too often learning is introduced in fairly traditional trips received in a context which is more relevant or stimulating."



Andrew Davidson
Education Correspondent

Science lessons 'lack excitement'

Science lessons are at risk of becoming dull because of health and safety constraints, according to the head of Scotland's economic development agency.

Chief executive of Scottish Enterprise Jack Perry said he had "grave concerns" that teaching in schools lacked excitement.

The former science student said when he was at school "blowing up stuff" in the science lab was "great fun".



Mr Perry believes health and safety rules risk making lessons dull

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See also our professional learning pages for various health and safety courses, including self-study physics.