



Cheshire and Stockport Science Learning Partnership

## Technician newsletter

Hello!

Welcome to the first edition of our technician's newsletter – an idea which arose from the recent meeting of our technician network. It seems an appropriate time to send the first edition, with the launch of techognition – a week-long celebration of secondary school science technicians. More information on how to get involved and what happens next can be found here:

<https://eic.rsc.org/news/recognition-for-technicians/3008675.article>

(Please do consider sending your photos in to the competition; someone has to win – it would be great if they came from this region!)

The role of practical work in schools is changing with the abolition of controlled assessment at GCSE and the practical exams at A-level with the result that there is possibly more emphasis on the development of practical skills. And yet a survey undertaken on behalf of the ASE revealed a shortage of science technicians:

<https://eic.rsc.org/feature/losing-our-technicians-the-crisis-facing-schools/3008169.article>

One of the ways the SLP is supporting you, is by raising the profile of the work you do with your head teachers, and it is encouraging that within our region, there is agreement for funding of the network meetings where you can come together to share practice.

So where else can you go for help?

The awarding bodies have specialist staff you can contact with queries:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/science/as-and-a-level/teach/technician-advisers>

[TeachingScience@pearson.com](mailto:TeachingScience@pearson.com)

[pass@ocr.org.uk](mailto:pass@ocr.org.uk)

In addition, CLEAPPS is a goldmine of resources

<http://science.cleapss.org.uk/Resource-Info/G228-Technicians-and-their-jobs.aspx>

As is the ASE <https://www.ase.org.uk/resources/technicians/>

And not forgetting the organisers of techognition – preproom.org <http://www.preproom.org/>

And why not apply for an award? <https://www.saltersinstitute.co.uk/awards/technician-awards/>

As the publicity leaflet says 'Gain recognition for the work that you do' – whether that is trialling practicals, making resources; running a science club, demonstrating in lessons, supporting initial teacher trainees or any of the other myriad of tasks you do, its time to raise the profile of how you make a difference!