

Secure storage of chemicals



The Home Office is in the process of setting up a programme called *Secure Your Chemicals*, aimed at ensuring all holders and users of particular hazardous chemicals have effective systems to manage and monitor their stock. This applies to schools as well as industries and SSERC (together with

CLEAPSS in England), is working with the Home Office to produce some appropriate guidance.

This guidance is likely to confirm existing SSERC advice and should not, therefore, present any issues to well-

run science and D&T departments. The guidance will be made available on the SSERC website in a few months time, as soon as it is clarified, and schools are urged to look out for it.

It would be a good idea for schools to plan to carry out a thorough audit of

existing chemical stocks during the coming summer. We believe that a thorough audit could be timely in many respects but it will certainly allow schools to be confident that they meet the intentions of this programme. Remember, you can always contact us here at SSERC to resolve any issues an audit might raise.

The programme is likely to be publicised through a number of routes so you may find some local authority representatives or school governors enquiring about what actions schools might need to take.