

# CLS Risk Assessment

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**Title: Practical Demonstration Involving LB Agar Plates with School Children at an External Venue**

**Location of Activity:**

## A. Summary of Activity and Key Points

Member of CLS staff has been invited to do a practical demonstration with a group of school children. The practical involves the children placing their hands and other commonly used small items onto freshly prepared LB Agar plates. The plates are then sealed and taken back to CLS for incubation. The incubated plates are then photographed and the photographs are taken back to the school in order to show the children and discuss the results.

Note - aspects of the activity that relate to the venue and equipment supplied by the school cannot be assessed by CLS as we have not visited the premises before. The CLS staff member is expected to report to their host immediately upon arrival and adhere to any local health and safety instruction they are given.

## B. Risk Assessment

The sterile LB Agar plates are freshly prepared by CLS staff in a CLS laboratory. LB Agar is not chemically hazardous but hands and other items coming into contact with the plates will be thoroughly washed afterwards in accordance with standard Good Laboratory Practice.

The children are not involved in the incubation of the plates. This is done by CLS staff in a CLS laboratory and in accordance with Good Microbiological Practice.

To prevent the children coming into contact with the microbial colonies on the incubated plates, the plates are photographed by CLS staff and only the photographs are returned to the school.

The waste plates are autoclaved prior to disposal in the CLS Waste Autoclave Facility.