

Executive Summary			
Title of the Work	A Critical Investigation into the Benefits of Practical Work in Science for Pupils with Learning Difficulties.		
Author	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Mairead Ulamoleka</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Date of Completion May 2010</td> </tr> </table>	Mairead Ulamoleka	Date of Completion May 2010
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Institutional Contextual Details E.g. Phase (Optional)	Secondary special school		
Major Needs Identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Demonstrate that practical work is a vital component of science learning * Ensure my practice does not disadvantage neurotypical students with learning difficulties * Minimise the tension created by the need to deliver different pedagogical styles . 		
Methods used to collect data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Pupils attainment levels assessed using B Squared *Pupil questionnaires 		
Summary of Major Findings (Or recommendations to others)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * All the pupils, both those diagnosed with ASC and neurotypical pupils with learning difficulties, made progress during the period of the project. * All the pupils enjoyed taking part in practical work * Although there are studies critical of the use of practical work in science the benefits would appear to outweigh the disadvantages 		
Impact of the Project (And evidence source) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge • Practice • Pupil/Student learning Experience • Pupil/Student Learning Outcomes (What happened as result?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * An acknowledgement of a body of work suggesting the disadvantages of practical work in science. * An increased understanding of the responses to criticism of the value of practical work in science. <p>Both of these are evidenced in the discussion of reading referenced .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *A recognition of the need for in-depth planning and very careful differentiation as argued in the analysis and discussion section * An increased number of suitable practical investigations to be included in the department Key Stage 3 Schemes of Learning * Pupils displayed a positive attitude towards practical work, evidenced in the Smiley questionnaire results. * Pupils' greater understanding of the subject as evidenced through the increase in levels attained by all pupils. 		
Contact E mail or address (Optional)			
Other Information			