

# BACTERIA CULTURES



All our bacteria cultures are safe for use in schools.

All cultures are checked for purity before dispatch and are considered non-pathogenic. However, due to the possibility of contamination and mutation all bacteria should be treated as potentially dangerous. We recommend using aseptic techniques. For further resources see the Microbiology Society (e.g. Basic Practical Microbiology manual) and CLEAPSS websites.

## Key rules:

- Wear a clean lab coat and wash your hands thoroughly before and after
- Never eat in the laboratory or store cultures where food may be stored
- Surfaces should be disinfected with an anti-bacterial cleaner before and after use
- Complete all operations as quickly as possible but without rushing
- All items in contact with bacteria should be sterilised/autoclaved before & after use
- All cultures should be clearly labelled with strain and date

All our bacteria should be sub-cultured onto sterile nutrient agar/broth within 1 week of receipt and every 2 weeks thereafter. Incubate around 25°C until growth is visible (around 2-3 days) then store in the fridge (4°C). Bring up to room temperature before using.