



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

College of Engineering and  
Physical Sciences

School of Chemistry

10<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### RSC Top of the Bench – Preliminary Round 2019

I am writing in response to your enquiry regarding a risk assessment for your visit to our RSC Top of the Bench (Preliminary Round) competition on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019.

There will be a practical session in the laboratory in which the teams will carry out a set task. The activity will have been approved either by CLEAPSS or by the appropriate University authorities. Both activities will involve only low hazard chemicals and equipment. Supervision is provided by University staff with the appropriate number of lecturers, post graduates or technicians in attendance at all times.

Students will be required to wear safety glasses and a lab coat/protective apron in the laboratory. This is a university rule, which is always carefully observed. Students will also be reminded as to general safety requirements for laboratory work. Schools are asked to bring their own safety glasses and lab coats where possible (for comfort); otherwise the University will provide them. Students must however come appropriately dressed *i.e.* no shorts, short skirts, no open-toed shoes, bare midriffs, legs or shoulders and long hair should be tied back. Preferably school uniform should be worn, but if not, appropriate clothing for lab work, ensuring either trousers or long skirts *i.e.* below the knee are worn to ensure legs are covered.

An area will be available for the students and their teachers to have lunch. I hope you and your team have an enjoyable day.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Mark S. D. Read CSci CChem FRSC FHEA  
Senior Lecturer in Computational Solid State Chemistry

