

## Research on Micro-organisms

Students and teachers should follow the guidelines in *Safety and Science-A Guidance Manual for New Zealand Schools* for what is allowed and what is not for school research.

Please refer to this guide for a complete list, but in brief –

- \* Do not use – human or animal sources like blood, saliva, pus, urine, or faecal material. Skin surfaces are allowed.
- \* Cultures need to remain in sealed petri dishes.
- \* No samples should be taken from toilets, toilet areas, sinks and door handles, rubbish bins and drinking taps.
- \* Incubate at 25 C or lower. Not at 35-40 C.
- \* Disposal of petri dishes must be by heat (20 min. by pressure cooker) or soaked in a 10% bleach solution for 3 days.
- \* Please see list in the manual for a list of suitable micro-organisms to use.

(Paraphrased from *Safety and Science-A Guidance Manual for New Zealand Schools* (1999) Learning Media Limited, Wellington, NZ).