

Sustainable Sharing Series

Toxic Free Cleaning

Ensuring our campuses are clean is essential, but ensuring that by being thorough we don't increase our impact on the environment is also a keen concern, both in terms of the chemicals we use, and the waste produced by cleaning products and materials.



Electrolysed Water

Using just water and salt, these products use a scientific process using positive anodes and negative cathodes to produce an active ingredient, Hypochlorous Acid which is a natural, harmless disinfectant.

This is hugely impactful and powerful against virus and bacteria, and is not only safe and kind to skin, but also an excellent **deodoriser** over time.

The degreaser **dissolves grease** by polarising and offering a streak free clean.

These are good products for High risk areas and the disinfectant is **safe to ingest**, so can be used in food preparation.

This product can also be used in foggers, pumped into the air, this also reduces the spores and pollens in the air which can lead to allergies and hay fever.

Limitations, these products won't replace all other cleaning materials, but go a long way towards covering most needs.

Electrolysed water can be unstable and the solution may lose potency over time, there are, however, products which have resolved this issue.

There is an initial cost to get this set up, but over the long run there are savings to be made.

Enviro Sachets

Soluble sachets of chemicals which dissolve are a great way of reducing waste, these can be used with 'bottles for life', and again this means huge savings on waste and costs.

Transport costs are also reduced, alongside the reduced space saving to store these items.

These products can cover use for all cleaning requirements. See links below to some recommended products.

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Reducing Waste

Alongside our focus on using fewer chemicals, we also need to think about the waste from cleaning products and their dispensers. In addition, there is likely to be an overall reduction in costs using refills.

One way to reduce waste is to use refills, this reduces the single use plastics and waste and can be an effective way of reducing our impact on the environment and our carbon footprint.

Refill stations set up in institutions, are a good way to both engage students and reduce waste. Students and families in the local area could also make use of the refill stations, to reduce their personal impact. This could also be used to raise money for other initiatives.

Specialist Environments

Specialist areas like laboratories, may need more heavy-duty solutions to be used in between using the Electrolysed Water.

Electrolysed water has the advantage of being non-toxic so is perfect for use in food preparation areas, even without wiping surfaces after application.

The non-corrosive nature of Electrolysed water means that areas that need to be bleached may require other products to ensure that the level of cleaning required is achieved.

Step change

We are used to detergents and cleaners that offer us a pleasant smell, the more natural solutions are often without any odour, this might be something that takes a little getting used to, we need to encourage comparisons on the actual results, and realise that what we are used to may not be actively involved in making an area cleaner.

Resources and Guides

- [Here](#) is a link to some of the cleaning products recommended on the webinar
- [Here](#) is another link to environmentally friendly products discussed
- [Here](#) is the link to a Schools presentation giving some technical information on Dew Products