



# Instructions for using Potting Mix or Compost\*

This method is used when growing plants under conditions that do not involve incubation. There is a risk of exposure to a type of bacteria, *Legionella longbeachae*, when using potting mix and compost.

The information in this section relates to Safety & Science, *A guidance manual for New Zealand schools*. Ministry of Education (2000). Wellington, New Zealand: Learning Media

## Actions:

- Fill in this form and glue it into your book
- Get your teacher to sign it
- Get your supervisor (parent or teacher) to sign it after opening potting mix bags

**School method for studies into plant and plant growth using a variety of different soils and organic mixes.**

**Student(s) carrying out the investigation:**

**School:**

**Contact Teacher:**

**Contact Teacher's email:**

**Teacher's School Phone No:**

**Project Title:**

**Aim:**

## Method for using Potting Mix or Compost:

1. All students will watch the supervising teacher or parent open potting mix/compost bags carefully using scissors\*\*\*\*\*
2. They will wear suitable eye protection - safety glasses/sunglasses
3. They will wear a disposable face mask and gloves
4. They will work outside in a well-ventilated area and dampen down the potting mix or compost to prevent the bacteria becoming airborne.

**Teacher's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*\*If you are working at home, then your parent/guardian may act as your supervisor and must also sign the form below.**

**Parent/Guardian Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

\* Adapted from MSTF consent form for potting mix use.