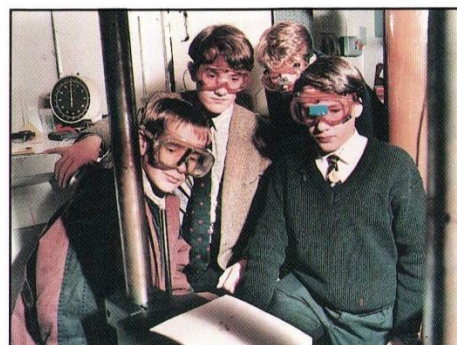
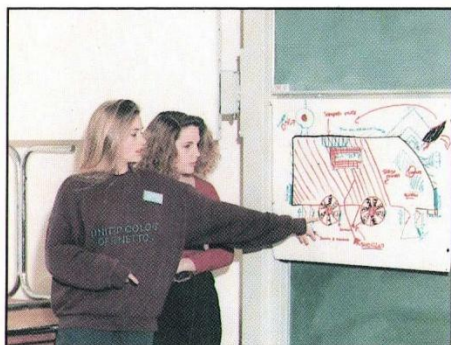


## RUTHERFORD APPLETON LABORATORY



# WORKING WITH SCHOOLS

The main function of the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory is to support research in the fields of space science, lasers, materials, particle physics, computing and information technology. The Laboratory achieves this by developing and operating world class facilities and by being a centre of excellence in advanced scientific and engineering techniques. Many of the scientists and engineers amongst the 1300 staff collaborate in research projects themselves. In all around 8500 scientists and engineers make use of RAL in some way each year.

# WORKING WITH SCHOOLS

## VISITS

RAL welcomes school visits. A visit will be tailored to suit the needs of the group, and will normally involve an introductory talk covering the work of the whole Laboratory and a tour of two or three areas of specific interest.



## CAREERS FAIRS

The Laboratory is eager to participate in local careers fairs in order to promote careers in science and technology in general, as well as to publicise opportunities at RAL.

## TEACHER PLACEMENTS

The Laboratory encourages teacher placements. Working with the Teacher Placement Service and the Education Business Partnerships of South Oxfordshire and West Berkshire, RAL offers one placement per term to a local teacher.

## INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT FOR GNVQ IN SCHOOLS

The Laboratory is giving assistance to local schools to enhance the industrial relevance of the teaching of these new vocational courses.

## SCHOOL PRIZE SCHEME



Each year Heads of Science in the secondary schools local to RAL are invited to select a pupil to receive the RAL prize for practical achievement in Year 9. The prize winners then choose their prize from a book list supplied by the Laboratory. The prize includes a tour of the Laboratory's facilities and an evening reception at RAL to which teachers and parents are also invited.



## ENGINEERING APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING SCHEME

Each year school leavers are recruited locally to train as Engineering Apprentices. The training scheme takes the form of a 4-year indentured apprenticeship. In September the trainees join the Laboratory for a short induction course before attending Abingdon College of Further Education for one year. Subsequent years are spent at the Laboratory being trained in appropriate engineering skills and then developing those skills. Day release to follow academic studies continues in parallel with this on-the-job training.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

RAL offers a limited number of work experience placements each year. While there is always a great demand for placements in areas such as Space Science and Technology opportunities are also available in other departments.

## TALKS

Some of RAL's top scientists, engineers and computer experts are available to visit local schools to talk about their work.

## EVENTS

Many schools-oriented events are held at RAL. These include open days, lectures, presentations by the Living History of Science and science problem solving days. Details are publicised regularly to schools on our mailing list.



