



ASSIST

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL SCIENCE
INFORMATION SUPPORT FOR
TEACHERS AND TECHNICIANS

Published on ASSIST (<https://assist.asta.edu.au>)

[Home](#) > Human skeletons

Human skeletons

Posted by Anonymous on Tue, 2016-05-03 12:41

Human skeletons: We have been offered a human skeleton that has, up until now, been used for medical purposes. Are there any laws or special responsibilities we would have to comply with if we accepted this donation? Is it legal for us to have a human skeleton? I have read through the "Transplantation and Anatomy Act 1978" (ACT), but this was not helpful.

Voting:



No votes yet

Year Level:

7
8
9
10

Senior Secondary

Laboratory Technicians:

Laboratory Technicians

Showing 1-1 of 1 Responses

Human skeletons

Submitted by sat on 25 May 2016

These are very difficult questions to answer, and at present we cannot answer your questions. We have sought clarification on the relevant Act and have also approached a number of other

places such as anatomy departments, mortuaries and museums for advice. The possession of human skeletons by schools appears to be a grey area with no clear guidelines. Most of the relevant legislation covers human tissue material obtained through autopsies and by patient consent after surgical procedures and we are therefore continuing with our research regarding the legality of acquisition and possession of human skeletons in schools. We previously answered a question on the disposal of a human skeleton see [Cremated skeleton](#), which contains some related information and links that may be helpful.

We will update this post when we have some further information.

Source URL: <https://assist.asta.edu.au/question/3790/human-skeletons>