

There have been two recent pieces of research that have suggested air filtration units could have significant impacts on schools.

1) California

Following a massive release of natural gas, schools within a five-mile radius were fitted with air filtration units. Research comparing schools just within the five-mile zone to those just outside discovered a significant improvement in test results, equivalent to reducing class size by one third. Full paper available at:

https://edworkingpapers.com/sites/default/files/Gilraine_AirFilters_1.pdf

This paper also confirms earlier research in Israel that found a causal link between air pollution and test results:

http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/65743/7/Roth_long_run_economic_consequences_published.pdf

2) Bradford

A paper prepared for the Child of the North All-Party Parliamentary Group has reported that a trial of air cleaners in Bradford schools, which linked health and education data, found that schools that had relatively low-cost air cleaning technologies fitted showed significantly lower absence rates. Full report available at:

https://www.healthequitynorth.co.uk/app/uploads/APPG-REPORT-SEPT-23.pdf

From these research papers, it is clear that fitting air cleaning units in schools could be the single most cost-effective strategy to improve educational standards and reduce absences, so NASUWT urges you to seriously consider fitting air cleaning units to all classrooms in your school(s).

