

AS and A-level Physics practicals: Equipment set up

Practical 7: Investigation into simple harmonic motion using a mass-spring system and a simple pendulum

Part 1: Simple pendulum to investigate how the time period varies with length and to measure g

V1.0 – September 2016

Contribution from Marcin Poblocki, Senior Physics Technician at Manchester Grammar School

Attaching the pendulum bob as shown in the diagram – close up shot



Taking a length measurement before suspending the pendulum bob from the stand using a pin and Blu-tack as a fiducial marker



Pulling the pendulum bob to one side before its release, oscillating with small amplitude and in a straight line



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Practical 7 – Part 2: Mass-spring system

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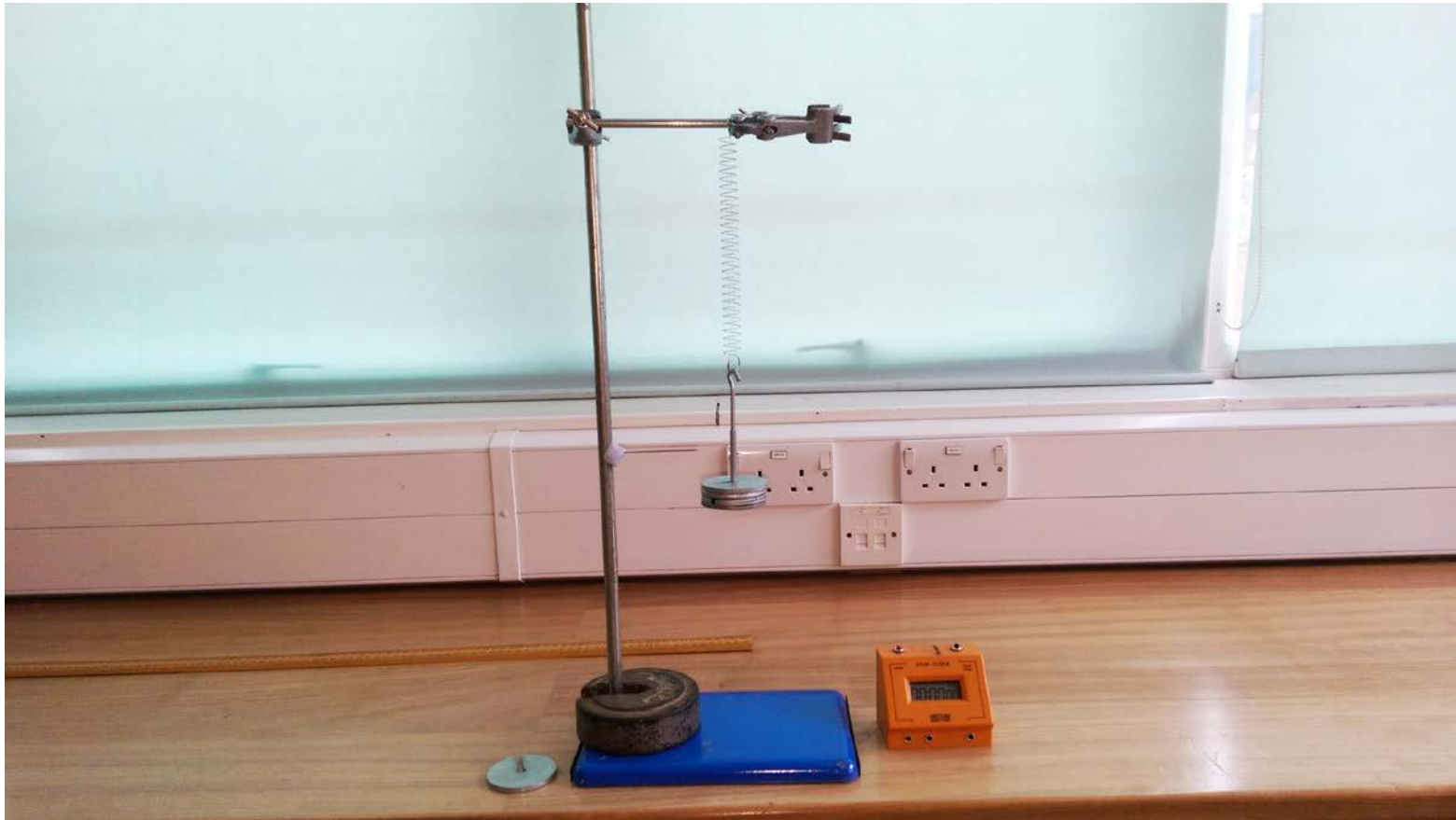
Hanging the spring and mass hanger from the clamp as shown in the diagram



With fiducial marker in position as a reference point...



...pull the mass hanger down a few cm and release...



...before seeing the spring oscillate vertically up and down

