**SSERC Risk Assessment** (revised version November 2009)

(based on HSE ‘5 steps to risk assessment’)

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| Activity assessed | Rock & Minerals |
| *Date of assessment* | 6/1/10 |
| *Date of review (****Step 5****)* |  |
| *School* |  |
| *Department* |  |

| Step 1 | Step 2 | Step 3 | Step 4 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *List Significant hazards here:* | *Who might be harmed and how?* | *What are you already doing?* | *What further action is needed?* | *Action by whom?* | *Action by when?* | *Done* |
| Magnesium sulphate has no hazard | Technician, teacher by inhalation and splashes | Avoid breathing any dustWear indirect vent goggles BNS 16 63 |  |  |  |  |
| Sediment solution | Teacher and pupil by splashes | Wear indirect vent goggles BNS 16 63 |  |  |  |  |
| Stearic acid is irritant | Technician, teacher by contact on skin | Wear indirect vent goggles BNS 16 63Wear glovesIf split on skin, wash off with copious amounts of water |  |  |  |  |
| Silver sand has no significant hazard | Technician, teacher, pupil | Wear indirect vent goggles BNS 16 63If contact with eyes wash out sand with copious amounts of water |  |  |  |  |
| Hot objects | Teacher, pupils | Allow to cool properly and use tongs/ holders where appropriate |  |  |  |  |
| Molten candle wax | Teacher, pupil | Keep plastic zip bag sealed at all times |  |  |  |  |

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| **Description of activity:**Making sedimentary rocks using a saturated solution of magnesium sulphate (Epsom salts) and silver sand. Mixing the 2 reagents and then drying in an oven.Making metamorphic rocks by heating and squeezing a layered mixture of soft diary fudge and candle wax in a sealed zip bag and allowing it to cool in crushed ice.Making igneous rocks by heating solid stearic acid and quickly cooling it in cold water and slowly cooling it in a paper cup surrounded by sand. |

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| **Additional comments:** |