# SSERC logo

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

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

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| Activity assessed | Fire Writing |
| *Date of assessment* | 3rd January 2020 |
| *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?* | *Actions* | | | | |
| *by whom?* | | *Due date* | | *Done* |
| Sodium nitrate is a strong oxidising agent and is corrosive to skin and eyes. | Technician by spillage and splashing while preparing solution. | Keep solid away from other ignitable material.  Wear gloves and goggles (BS EN166 3).  Wash any solid off skin with copious amounts of water. |  |  | |  | |
| A saturated solution of sodium sulphate is an eye irritant | Demonstrator and audience | Wear eye protection as appropriate.  Wash any solid off skin with copious amounts of water. |  |  | |  | |

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| **Description of activity:**  A design is ‘painted’ onto a piece of paper using a saturated solution of sodium or potassium nitrate. It is then allowed to dry. When dry the end of the trail is ‘lit’ by touching a glowing splint to it. The oxidizing nitrate then facilitates a smouldering trail to burn along the route of the nitrate trail. |
| **Additional comments:** |