Risk Assessment for School Science Activities

Name and nature of activity	Fire extinguisher			
Location and date of activity				
Name of teacher/technician	Science ASSIST example risk assessment			
Activity type	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐			
Physics and general equipment	Type of hazard Controls and other measures			
Fire extinguisher	□ Radiation ionising laser □ Electrical □ Thermal □ Projectiles □ Sharps □ Other –		□ Relevant signage □ Perspex safety shield □ Sharps container □ Glassware free from □ Safety glasses □ Thermally insulated g	cracks or chips
Chemicals used and produced	Type of hazard		Controls and other measures	
EXAMPLE ONLY: Non hazardous 'Pyro-Chem ABC Multipurpose Dry Chemical Powder'	Explosive Flammable Oxidising Gases under pressure Corrosive	Acute toxicity Health hazards Chronic health hazards Environmental Other – from combustion products	☐ Limit quantity/concer☐ Perspex safety shield☐ Ventilation: natural/ex☐ Fume cupboard☐ Safety glasses☐ Laboratory coat/apro☐ Gloves: latex/nitrile/n☐ Safety shower☐ Other — Evacuate ro	d xhaust n eoprene/PVC
Biological/geological materials used	Type of hazard		Controls and other measures	
NA	☐ Biohazard		☐ Steriliser ☐ Disinfectant ☐ Sharps container ☐ Dust mask ☐ Safety glasses ☐ Gloves ☐ Other —	
Waste produced	Waste disposal procedure			
Discharged fire extinguisher	☐ Pre-treatment of waste — ☐ Sink with water — ☐ Regular waste — ☐ Licenced hazardous waste company — ☐ Other — Return to a recognised and certified fire safety company			
Standard Operating Procedures				
 I have read the relevant Standard Operating Procedure. I am experienced/trained in using all the equipment listed. All chemicals used and produced are approved for use. I have read the current SDSs for all hazardous chemicals used and produced. I am aware of safety guidelines for using all chemicals, materials and equipment. I will follow local guidelines for waste disposal (water authority, local council, EPA). I am aware of first aid procedures if required. 				
Other comments:				
Conclusion: ☐ Risks not significant now and not likely to increase. ☐ Risks significant but effectively controlled at the moment. ☐ Risks significant and not adequately controlled at the moment. ☐ Uncertain about risks; more detailed assessment required.				
Assessment carried out by: Science ASSIST	Signature:			Date: March 2016
Assessment approved by:	proved by: Signature:			Date:
Next assessment due:				

This Risk Assessment assumes that the activity will be conducted in a science teaching area with the following facilities: electricity, running water, emergency shut-offs for electricity, gas if applicable, and water, regular testing and tagging of portable appliances; emergency contingencies such as evacuation/emergency plans, appropriate fire extinguishers, spill kits, hand washing facilities, eyewash/safety shower and first aid supplies. It is also assumed that all the necessary licencing requirements and approvals are obtained prior to the activity.