

Assessment of risk

SOILS/FINE SEDIMENT LAB WORK

Assessment undertaken (date) _____
 Signed _____
 Assessment Review _____

Hazard	Who might be harmed?	Existing controls	Further action necessary
Bacterial infection from soil through broken skin would (tetanus etc.).	All	Cuts/sores open wounds to be plastered and gloves worn if necessary.	
Use of glass labware	All	Advice given to notify of break-ages and dispose of in glass bin.	
Use of soil oven to dry soil/sediment samples.	All	Supervision by staff. Verbal warnings ref taking care when getting crucibles/beakers in out - hot metal shelves. Notify staff of burns so first aid can be given. Cool vessels before working with them (don't use straight from oven).	
Use of gas taps and bunsen burners. Burns, singed hair, fire risk. Gas leak.	All	Regular checks of gas taps, system and equipment by staff. Verbal instructions to all users about system/cut off emergency lever site. Centre staff to be responsible for turning on/off gas bottle/internal lever at start/end session. Centre staff to be responsible for positioning, lighting and constant supervision of those using bunsens (unless delegated).	Formal system with written records to be established.

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<p>Burning off humus is especially higher risk - don't do it if at all possible.</p> <p>Humus fumes</p> <p>Lab and safety generally.</p>	<p>All but especially those using bunsens.</p> <p>All</p>	<p>Goggles (safety) must be worn, bench mats, tongs supplied. Hair tied. Warnings given about safe use of bunsens, types of flame, leaving crucibles to cool down. 'Exploding' flint/quartz.</p> <p>Ventilate room well.</p> <p>Lab safety rules as pinned on door in lab. Be aware of wall display content next to bench.</p>	