# SSERC logo

**SSERC Risk Assessment** (revised version March 2018)

(based on HSE’s INDG 163 ‘Risk assessment - A brief guide to controlling risks in the workplace’)

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| Activity assessed | Food forensics |
| *Date of assessment* | 3rd January 2018 |
| *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* |
| Tetrabutylammonium phosphate is harmful if swallowed and is corrosive to skin & eyes.  The solutions are of no significant hazard | Technicians by spillage and splashing during preparation. | Wear goggles (EN 166 3) and consider gloves. |  |  | |  | |
| Ethanol is highly flammable | Pupils teachers by fire during extraction | Keep well away from any sources of ignition. |  |  | |  | |

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| **Description of activity:**  The experiment uses Solid Phase Extraction (SPE) cartridges to extract the colouring from soft drinks which can then be eluted with a smaller volume of a different solvent, thus being concentrated enough for analysis by paper chromatography or TLC. |
| **Additional comments:**  Any tetrabutylammonium compound will work – the bisulphite is simply the cheapest. |