Hawkhurst Parish Council

Health and Safety Report

Authors: Cllr. P. Green

Cllr. S. Paish

June 2022

Contents

HPC - Health & Safety

Following incidents witnessed by a councillor at the fete, one of which resulted in concussion, a broken leg and hospitalisation the Council instigated a review led by Cllr Green to consider our response.

The immediate action was that from 8th June all special events on KGV (as opposed to its normal use) must have the area around the concrete base of the demolished garage roped-off. The clerk was asked to ensure that the barrier was similar to that used for the beacon not just a piece of tape.

Armed with the Health and Safety Executive checklist, all Council facilities and sites were visited by Cllrs Green and Paish and notes taken along with some photographs.

The HSE guidance is contained in the following links.

For slip and trip.
https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ck4.pdf

For Village Halls
https://www.hse.gov.uk/voluntary/assets/docs/village-hall.pdf

The then clerk contacted our insurers, and the clerk was asked to contact the Fete Committee in case their insurers also need to be notified.

In addition, a note was made in the accident Log Book on behalf of Cllr Cory who was unable so to do because of her incommodity.

In addition to following HSE guidance, several hours were spent in conversation with the Head of Health & Safety for the Borough Council - who endorsed our approach of immediate action, a quick HSE survey and then prioritising actions and commitment to improve processes and revise policies if needed. He emphasised the need to document actions to demonstrate that timely and proportionate action with a mix of immediate and longer-term actions to reduce or eliminate risk.

It is also worth noting that in the event of a serious incident an external investigator may take more seriously other matters as it could indicate a systemic indifference towards proper standards of care.

Conclusions

Some issues are serious, but could be seen as minor in isolation. However, taken together indicate a systemic lack of a proper management to provide adequate day-to-day maintenance.

Given the number if matters that this report and previous ROSPA reports highlight, we could spend a month of Sunday's considering 101 different individual actions, each requiring a tendering process. However, it is possible to group many to form urgent major projects. I have identified three: KGV – removal of concrete blocks, paths and roadway improvement and car park; KGV – playground; and Heartenoak – playing field.

Other urgent work smaller work would fall into a 'just do it' category (such as Copt Hall tarmac extension and replacing fence panel at Heartenoak) and other matters that should form part of an ongoing maintenance plan to be complete within 12 months (e.g. dips in front of benches).

The Health and Safety of employees and the public is a priority and we must move from re-active to pro-active management of the facilities within our care.

The initial Health & Safety audit has been completed and is attached as Appendix A, along with the ROSPA reports for the playgrounds as Appendix B and C.

Follow up action and recommendations

Recommendation

1. Our rules on what we expect event organisers to do in terms of risk / H&S assessment needs to be properly understood. Existing H&S safety plans for our buildings and for events need to be scrutinised with an eye to the issues we have faced.

2. In addition to the annual ROSPA reports on the condition of the playgrounds the Parish Council should also commission an annual or biannual independent Health & Safety Report.

3. The Council should mandate the clerk to carry out the recommendations of future RoSPA and H&S reports unless specifically resolved not to by the Council.

4. Once brought to an adequate standard FAS should consider a single maintenance contract for our playgrounds that combines inspection with maintaining the required standard, so there is not the erosion of standards that leads to major problems.

Below are specific recommendations arising from the recent survey. A copy of the notes and photographs taken, and ROSPA reports are attached as appendices.

The Moor

Urgent matters

The entrance lip to the Moor needs to be made good to remove a tripping hazard as you cross the road.

The basal growth in the lime tree on the corner limits the sightlines for traffic and makes crossing the road dangerous. This growth should be cut back to the base of the tree.

Secondary matters

Various divots could be addressed and part of normal maintenance as should replacing the broken and damaged posts.

Recommendations

5. That the Council instructs a contractor to cut back the lime tree growth now using FAS maintenance budget.

6. That the Council instructs a contractor to make good the entrance lip to the Moor as soon as practicable using maintenance budget or General Reserves.

7. That the Council instructs a contractor (or the bonfire society) to examine and fix the beacon as soon as practicable using monies from the maintenance budget.

8. That FAS bring forward a maintenance plan for the Moor that includes the maintenance of the surface and replacement of broken and damaged posts (and note that the Council's preference is to use wooden posts on the Moor).

King George V Playing Fields

Urgent matters

Concrete slabs, path and driveway

The hard surface areas have a variety of trip hazards – from the entrance, uneven / subsiding tarmac, broken paving slabs and the concrete platforms where the most recent and serious incidents occurred.

Recommendation

9. That the concrete slabs be protected from use during events and removed as soon as practicable present the most immediate risk be removed as soon as practicable, and a project be established to renew the entrance gates, the surface from the entrance gate around the site and car park, the low post & rails, and the paths around the KGV, that the entrance to the KGV building be made less high and wheelchair accessible, and that the concrete platforms be removed. This area would be suitable to extend the car park relieving pressure on the main road when matches are played. Funds for this project to come from General Reserves.

Playground

The playground equipment is in a poor state with several years of inadequate ROSPA reports ignored. In addition, there are a number of surface trip hazards within the playground and inadequate fencing that is held together with tape and screws.

Recommendation

10. That a project be established that addresses the playground issues in the round so that rather than tackle piecemeal that the playground is restored to safety and adequacy as a whole. Funds for this project to come from general reserves plus monies held for playground improvements.

Pavilion grassed area

The fencing to the grassed area outside the pavilion is rickety and needs to be replaced. The benches and flower boxes are dilapidated.

Recommendation

11. That a project be established to replace the fencing, to restore, replace and add to the benches and flower boxes and the grassed area be made presentable and smooth.

Pavilion building

There are various issues with the kitchen area – electrics and the condition of the units.

The work to fix the dangerous step to the changing room has brought to light the dilapidation to the window frames and other wood work. Whilst not a safety issue, it may make sense that a small project is needed for the building that addresses the historic issues along with the safety concerns.

Recommendation

12. The kitchen electrics and cabinets be examined professionally with a view to making the electric and kitchen fit for purpose.

13. A project is established to address the general dilapidation issues with the Pavilion and the funds to be allocated from General Reserves.

KGV Side entrance

The side entrance that goes out onto the Hastings Road is dangerous because of the erosion of the pathway. A simple repair using black could be sufficient to rebuild the path and eliminate the trip hazard and address the drainage from the road.

Recommendation

14. That a contractor is sought to affect a repair asap, with monies found from General Reserves, and that KCC be contacted about the road drainage.

Secondary matters

Other items identified – such as wear in from of benches, clearing of branches near the MUGA and removal of old ground post and renewing the archery board, whether fencing is required between the KGV and should be picked up as part of the general maintenance plan for the KGV

Recommendation

15. That FAS consider the other items identified and address then as part of an ongoing maintenance plan for the KGV.

Heartenoak Playing Field

Urgent matters

Small playground

Some paving slabs are broken near the entrance to the small playground.

Recommendation

16. That the council, instruct a contractor to repair/replace the broken straight away. Funding can come from general Reserves if not available from the FAS maintenance budget.

Fencing

A couple of the rails struts are down on the main fence line. Repair to the fence is urgent as is dissuades kids from exiting down the slope to the road.

Recommendation

17. This repair should be simple and inexpensive and should be ordered straight away using funds from FAS maintenance budget or General Reserves.

Playground / field

Much like the KGV playground we have ROSPA reports that go into detail of the things that need to be addressed. The survey also identified a number of landscape issues that ought to be addressed – such as the earth bank near the zip wire, big dips in the playing surface and the issue with manhole covers.

Recommendation

18. That the Heartenoak site be considered in the round with a single project and single contract let to bring the site up to a proper standard, including the proposals for extra equipment that will create safe and improved facilities. That funding for this is found from General Reserves and offset by drawing down on the developer contribution. I believe that £15k had already been earmarked for pitch levelling and drainage works at this site.

Copt Hall

Urgent matters

Car park

The major trip hazard is the car park, because of the slope it is recommended that rather than adding more roadstone that the tarmac area is extended by c15-20 feet.

Recommendation

19. That the Council instructs a contractor is extend the tarmac entrance to the Copt Hall car park by c20 feet. Funding for this to come from General Reserves.

Emergency exit

The Emergency Exit door doesn't close, and the emergency exit needs to be clear of vegetation and with an appropriate handrail.

Recommendation

20. That a contractor is appointed to adjust the door and to install better emergency handrail.

Secondary matters

Posts

Whilst the entrance is being attended to it makes sense for the white metal post to be removed and the broken concrete post that protects the wall to be replaced. Although not H&S issues. I recommend that these are done at the same time as the tarmac extension. It might be that the same contractor could make good the side entrance to the KGV as it may also involve using some tarmac.

Recommendation

21. That white metal post be removed and the broken concrete post be replaced at the same time that the tarmac work is done.

All other matters identified should be considered by the Trust and brought to FAS/Council.

Fowlers Wood

Common sense dictates that those who walk in a wood should expect ground that is uneven and there will be tree roots. However, the inspection did highlight three issues. Firstly, the gate only

partially opens due to the post moving and the build-up of earth; there is a very large dip in the path that needs filling, and the fencing at the end of our land where a tree feel has been demolished.

Recommendation

22. That FAS fix the gate, dip and fencing with funding from General Reserves.

Hensil & Ockley Allotments

There were a number of observations – from molehills, tipping of non-garden waste and uneven entrance paths that can be addressed through ongoing maintenance and closer supervision by FAS and the new allotment warden.

Recommendation

23. That FAS review the observations and address them in an ongoing maintenance plan.

Office

Various matters were identified in the office.

Recommendation

24. That the issues be picked up as part of the new office management

Hawkhurst Parish Council. HSE Audit supplementary information.

Observations from audit of HPC facilities using HSE Slips and trips hazard spotting checklist and HSE Checklist for village and community halls. Conducted by Cllr Paul Green and Cllr Simon Paish on Thursday 9th June 2022, conditions clear and dry, And 16th June 2022 conditions hot clear and dry.

King George V playing field

The Moor

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

Entrance from main road (A229)

By the entrance gate uneven surface

Cracked slabs in footway

Low and broken/unstable fence rail

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

By NW corner of building - Raised Tarmac ridge and recessed hatch cover

Loose slabs on edge of Ramp to public toilet raised edge to side at start of ramp

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

Raised manhole cover in Tarmac to the rear of changing rooms

Slope in surface around stormwater drain. Drain cover slightly proud of surface. Evidence of blocked drain and puddle forming on surface

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

By NE corner of building - Slightly raised curb and manhole cover

Footway along E end of building
Loose / rocking slabs in footway

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

Raised edge to corner of concrete base
Raised edge to concrete base along edge of footway

By SE corner of Building – Cracked slab

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

By Changing room entrance slope in footway / large gaps between slabs / Raised edge

Sports pavilion entrance - threshold and small worn mats

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

Concrete slab – Previously garage base. There is a ridge in the grass adjacent to the concrete and some weed on the surface of the infill. The Concrete slab is proud of the infill in places. The gradient of the infill slope changes throughout its length.

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

There is a large step between the concrete slab and a footway to the ground on the east side

Raisd edges to concrete slab and broken rail fencing

KGV Sports Pavilion – external - Slip and Trip observations

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

The synthetic surface of the MUGA is slightly uneven due to raised areas in the sub surface.

Picture unavailable - does not show detail

Moss is forming in the surface of the external footway around the MUGA, fence the footway is becoming overgrown in places.

KGV Grounds – external - Slip and Trip observations

There are the remains of a post

Wooden board broken and left on surface

KGV Grounds – external - Slip and Trip observations

Broken fence near Scout Hut

KGV Grounds – external - Slip and Trip observations

Entrance gate at SW corner of playing field.
Raised edge to public footpath

KGV Grounds – external - Slip and Trip observations

Exposed wooden boards to edge of footway due to low level of wood chippings

KGV Grounds – external - Slip and Trip observations

Benches along western boundary – Uneven surfaces

Rough/uneven surface

Pavilion Enclosure – external - Slip and Trip observations

Matting at entrance overgrown and exposed edge.

Loose /broken gate

Pavilion Enclosure – external - Slip and Trip observations

Dilapidated broken bench

KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Refer also to RoSPA report Appendix B for full detail of playground.

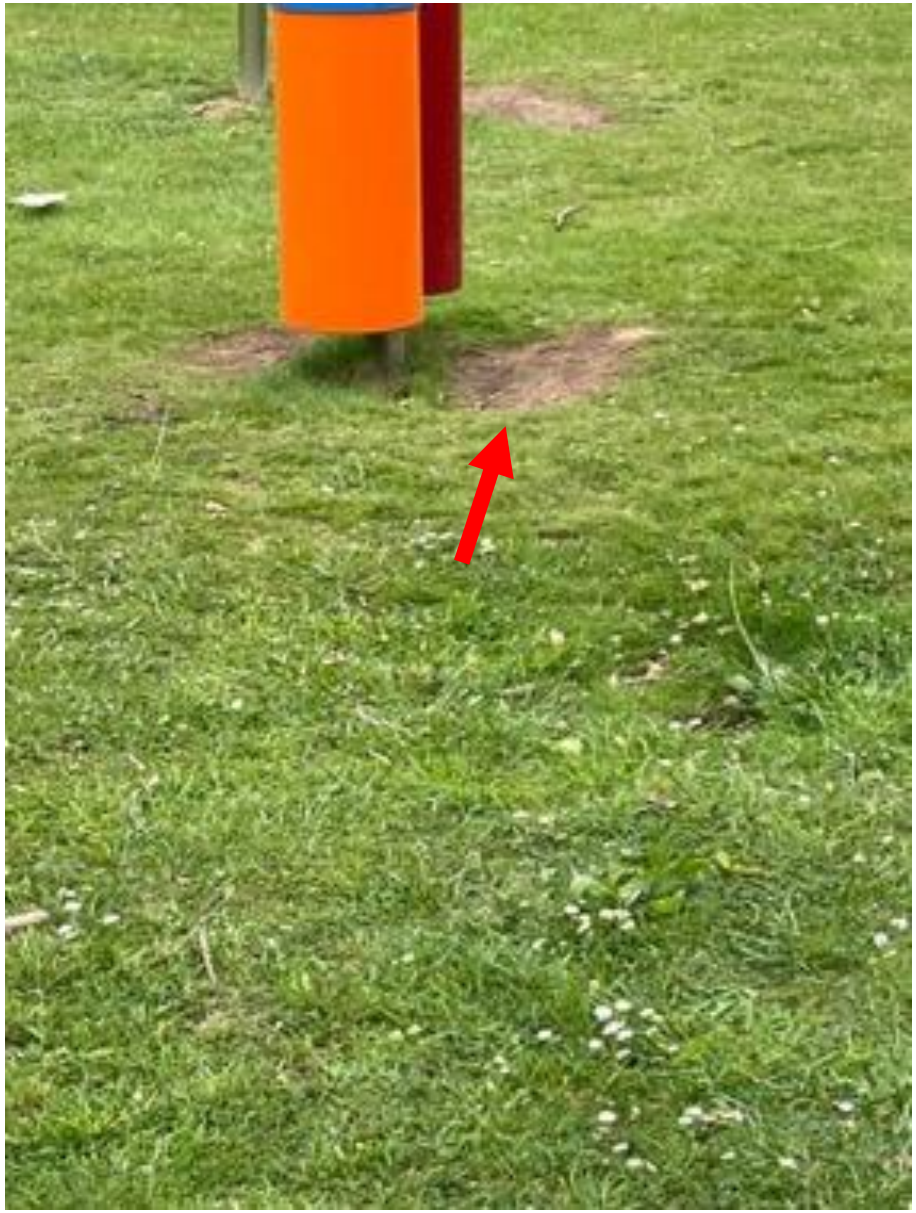
Uneven surface

Tree root and uneven surface

KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Surface inside entrance gate uneven and steep transition to grass.

Divot in front of bongos



KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Southern most swings – Lip to play surface.

Mole hills and uneven surface to right of swings.

KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Area beside slide. A piece of equipment has been removed and the remaining surface is rough and uneven

Area between slide and hedge rough and uneven

KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Metal climbing frame - Play surface has exposed and raised edges.

Northern most swings – Lip to play surface

KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Wooden bench – area in front has a dip and puddle making the surrounding area muddy and slippery and some tree roots on surface

Rubberised surface remains in grass from removed piece of play equipment (old seesaw?)

KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Uneven surface by rocking horse and worn grip

KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Concrete block in grass surface

Rotten tree stump has left crater and uneven surface

KGV Playpark – external - Slip and Trip observations

Uneven surface – ankle traps

Damaged/exposed metal and uneven surface in front of bench.

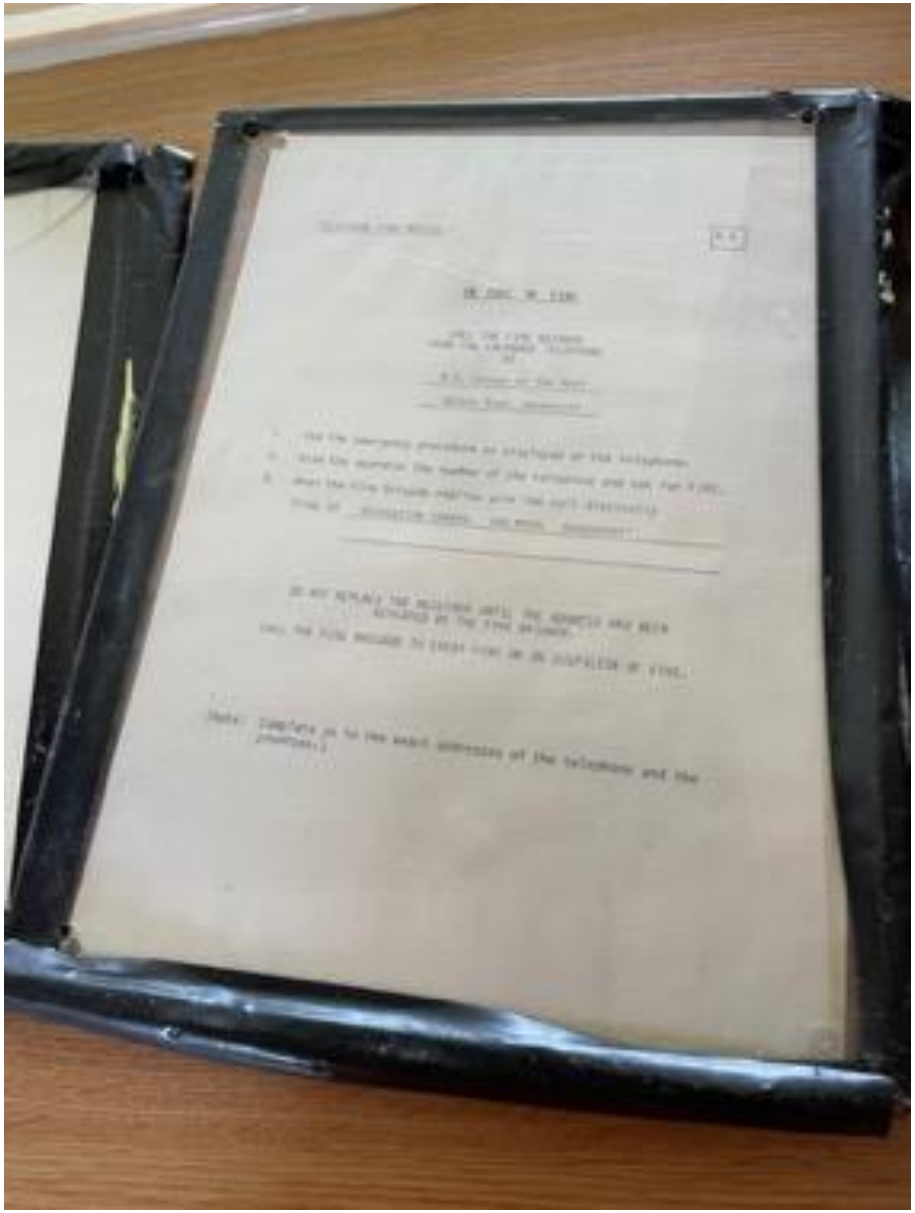

LITTER

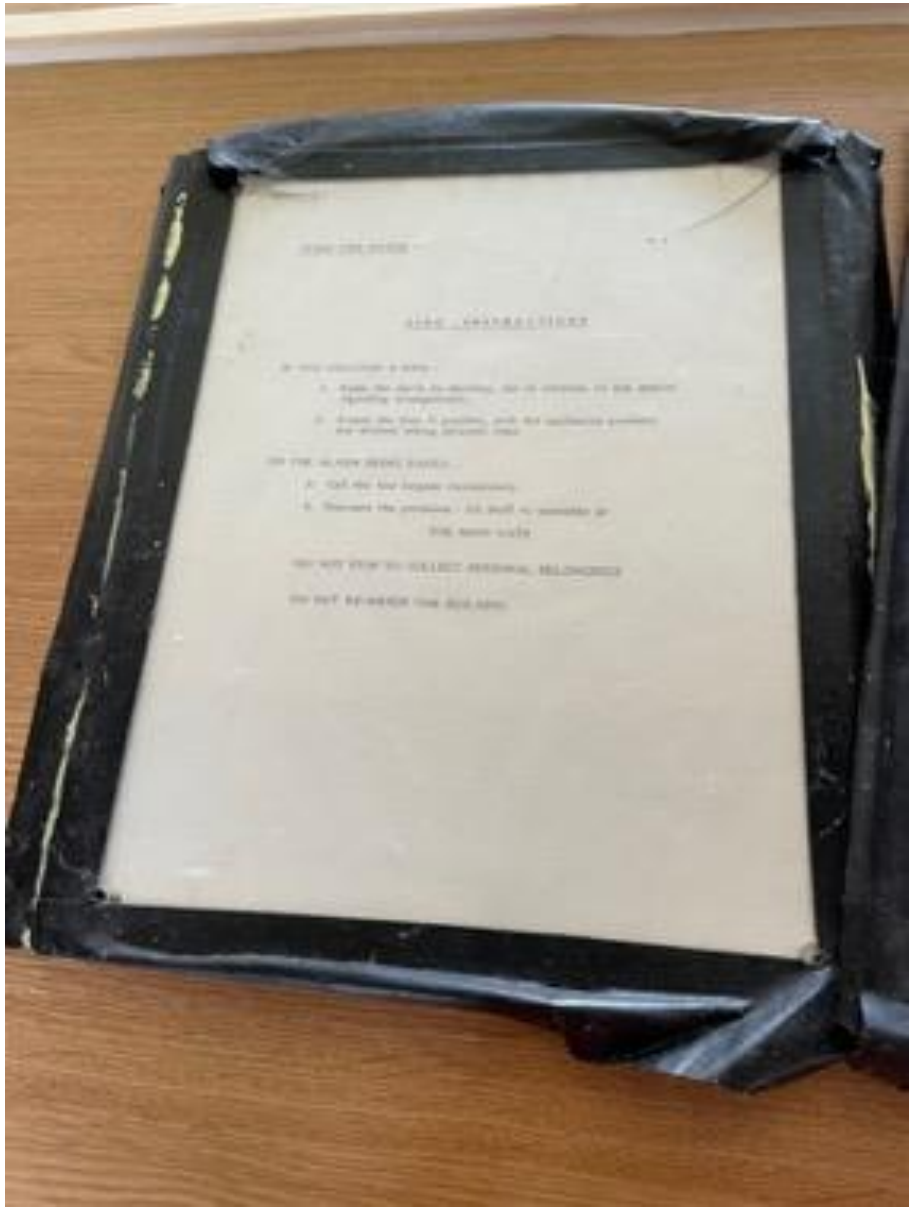
- Cupboard doors broken/ don't shut properly
- Post office extension lead not pat tested
- Kitchen cupboards in poor condition
- Equipment left on kitchen surfaces
- Bucket and cleaning equipment incorrectly stored
- Gas cooker pipe disconnected and left on surface
- Equipment and games not securely stored.
- Fridge from Fete Not PAT tested

Loose electrical cover under boiler

KGV Sports Pavilion – Internal - HSE Checklist for village and community Halls

Fire risk assessment and associated document not present/ requires updated procedure





Chairs stacked too high
Tables not stored securely

Copt Hall External Slip and trip

Entrance to carpark at transition from Tarmac to hardcore - eroded hardcore and uneven surface due to heavy use – suggest to tarmac 20-25ft extension

Copt Hall External Slip and trip

Fire exit on west end of building rough surface to sides and steps unequal height

Main entrance to building
Transition between public footpath and concrete?

Copt Hall External Slip and trip

Threshold worn and uneven

Fire escape on E end of building

No handrail on building side and gap and hole between building and raised concrete footway

Copt Hall External Slip and trip

Existing handrail has no lower rail

End of existing handrail not securely fastened to building

Copt Hall External Slip and trip

Moss and weeds on surface

Emergency exit door needs adjusting and redundant pipe removing

Copt Hall External Slip and trip

Main door restraint hook missing

Broken metal clip with sharp edges to LHS of stage at front

No Handrails for temporary stairs to stage

Raised threshold to stage door

Stair securing eye missing

- Fire procedures require updating/ not clear/ missing
- Storage of stage stairs when not in use
- Bolt but no lock on stage door

Comment from dance group – The wooden hall floor surface was in poor condition but has been fixed and is wonderful. However, the floor sealant has made the surface less grippy for dancers – Future action to find a more grippy floor sealant for next application.

Insecure storage of Tables
Ladders inappropriately stored and not secure

The Moor Slip and trip

Southern corner of The Moor - Uneven path surface

Low level tree growth on sightline of road junction

The Moor Slip and trip

Bench Uneven surface

Large dip in grass

The Moor Slip and trip

Broken and insecure posts on perimeter

Mound at N boundary between posts

The Moor Slip and trip

Bench not secure leaning backward

Entrance with A229 rear edge of curb raised above surrounding

The Moor Slip and trip

Hole where post is removed to allow access

The Moor Slip and trip

Water meter access cover proud of surface

Top of beacon not secure and post leaning

The Moor Slip and trip

Sluice Valve marker post and concrete post cracked and broken

Hensil Allotments - Slip and trip

Entrance gate raised edge

Mole hills

Hensil Allotments - Slip and trip

Mole hills and manhole cover

Rubbish in undergrowth

Hensil Allotments - Slip and trip

Mole Hills in footway

Matting in undergrowth

Hensil Allotments - Slip and trip

Ockley Allotments - Slip and trip

Rough surface/dip by carpark

Concealed pothole by water drum

Ockley Allotments - Slip and trip

Not a safety matter – but consider plot identifiers and allocation of spare plots and clearing dump area.

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

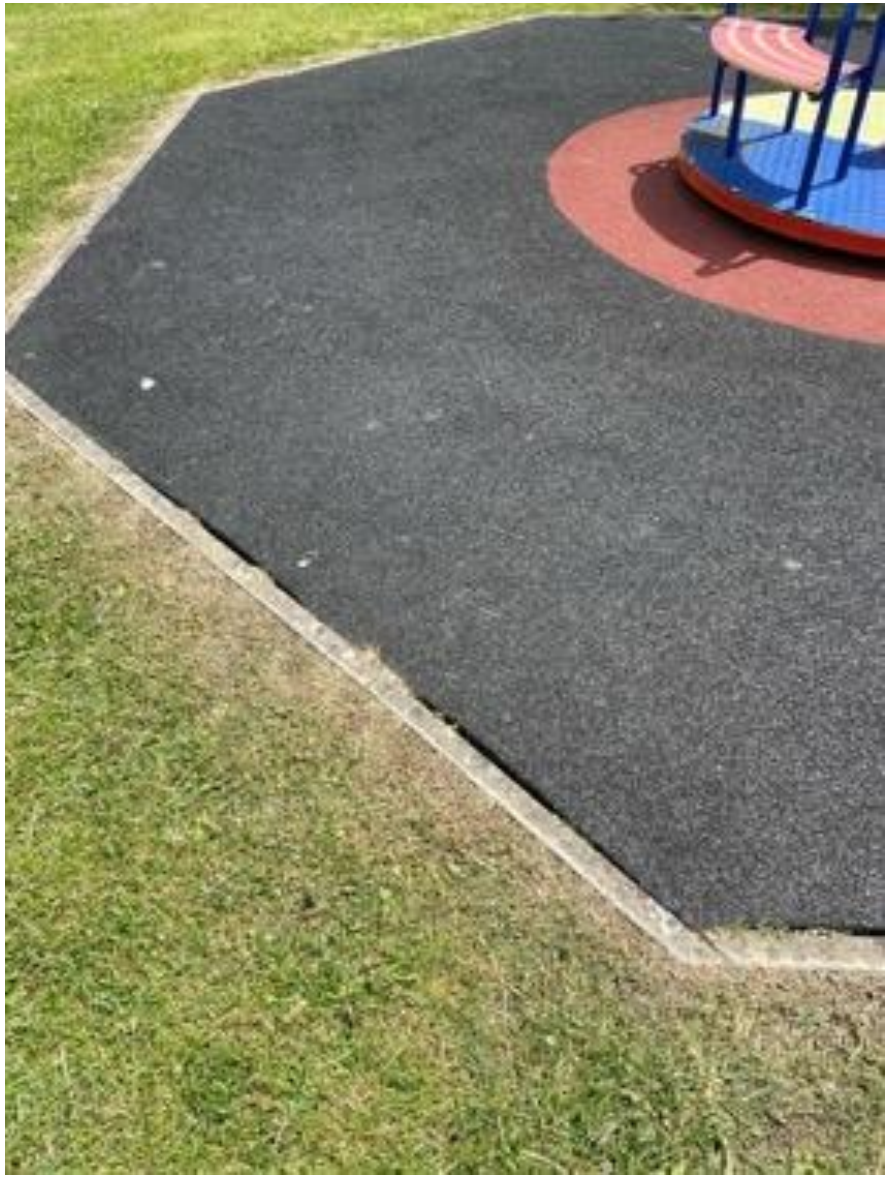
Rough surface and raised rear edge of curb in flowerbed by West entrance

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

West entrance concrete edge open gate

Raised edge to play surface – See RoSPA report

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip



Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Ground in front of gate would be slippery when wet, raised slab edge to path

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Side path missing slab

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Long dip in surface from sunken services trench

SE corner fence rails broken

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Area around bench uneven

Entrance gate and track Tyre tracks and steep slope uneven exposed surface may be slippery when wet

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Slope and manhole cover
Area around bench uneven

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Mole hills

Deep dip from sunken services trench and raised manhole cover

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Large dip and uneven surface in front of goal will puddle when wet

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Raised manhole cover

Potholes around zipwire base

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Large hole and erosion on earth mound

Manhole cover

Heartenoak Playingfield- Slip and trip

Raised edge at exit gate

Fowlers Wood - Slip and trip

Gate doesn't open fully

Fowlers Wood - Slip and trip

Tree roots

Large dip in footpath that puddles when wet

Fowlers Wood - Slip and trip

Fence broken and fallen tree

Parish Office- Slip and trip

Back door threshold raised, trailing cable on surface, bin and poster in exit, uneven floor

Filing cabinet positioned to restrict access,

Parish Office- Slip and trip

Kettle precariously positioned on top of fridge with other items

Daisy chain of electrical cables

Parish Office- Slip and trip

Step for change of level between offices

Fire extinguisher not wall mounted

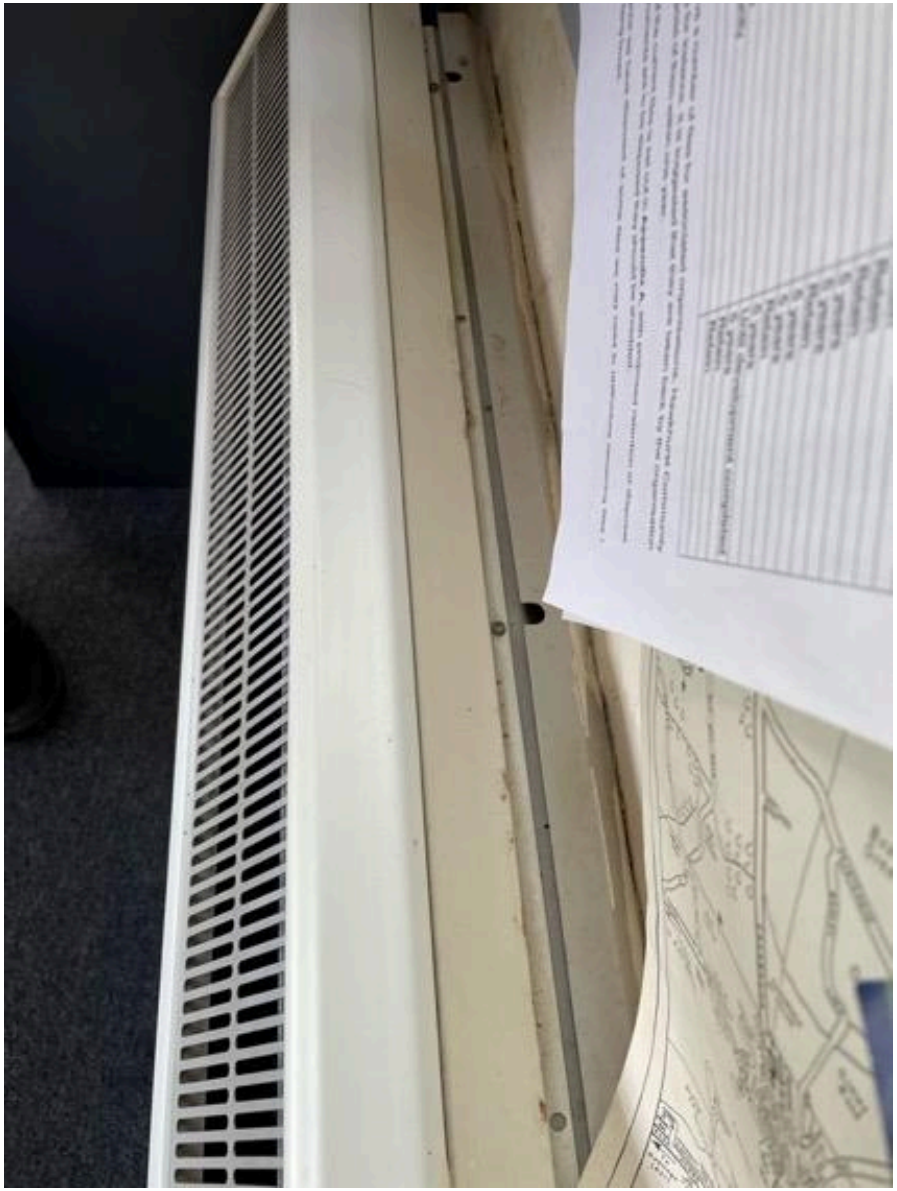
Parish Office- Slip and trip

Toilet chemicals incorrectly stored
Items stored on floor

Boxes and other items stacked and insecurely stored

Parish Office- Slip and trip

Heater cover not fitted correctly exposing sharp edge.



Further observaions

- Window frame rotting and becoming insecure
- Door furniture insecure – loose escutcheon handle secured with split pin
- Raised edge to entrance step
- Desk in poor condition
- Paper and rubbish incorrectly stored
- Boxes stacked incorrectly

Inside toilet

- Rusty utensil cage
- Water heater warning of temperature
- Sealant failed around sink
- Chemicals incorrectly stored
- Safety sheets for chemicals not available

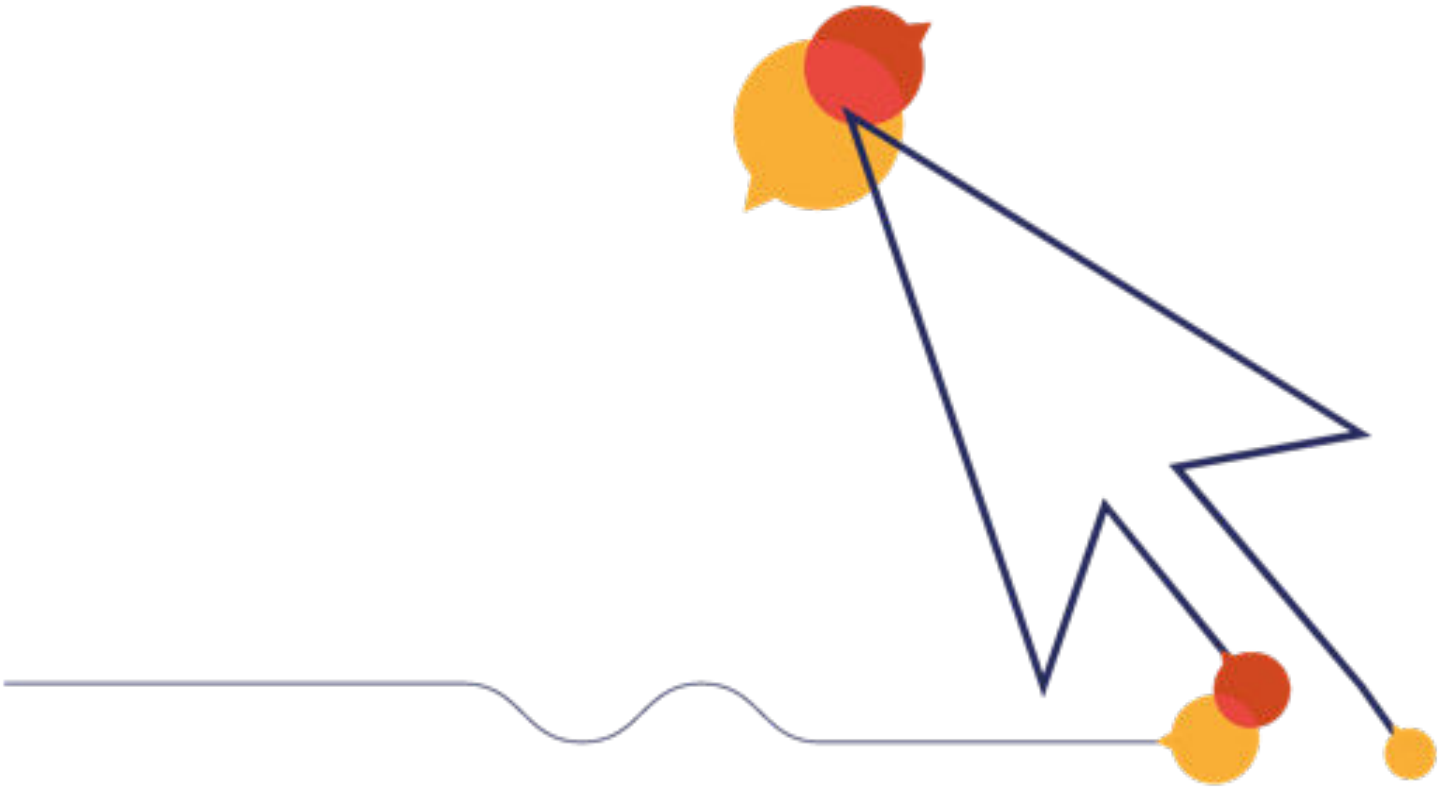
Safety Inspection Report

Annual Inspection

King George V

Hawkhurst Parish Council

16 September 2021



Safety Inspection Report

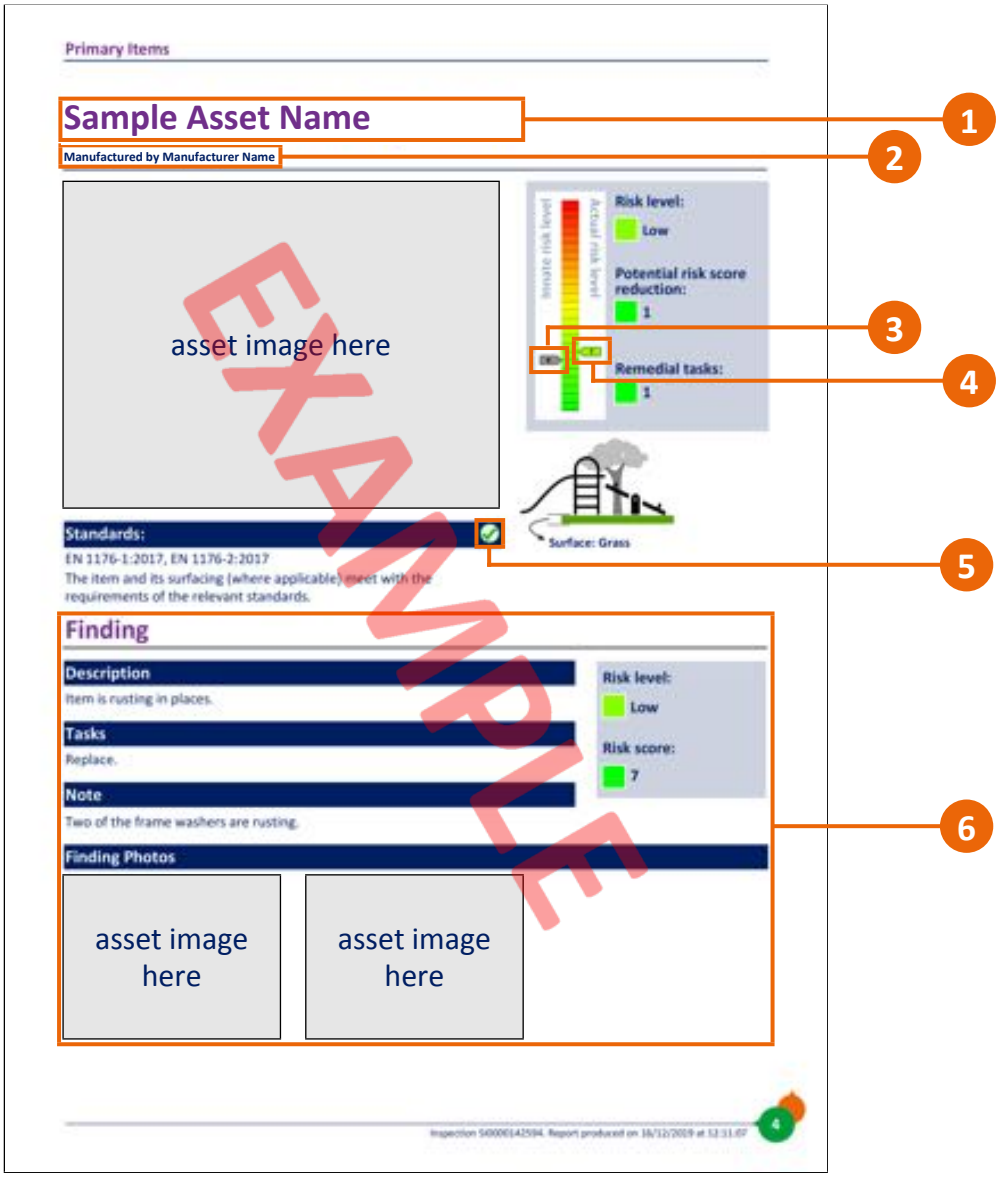
Annual Inspection

Site name: **King George V**
Date of inspection: **16 September 2021**
Inspector: **Chris Taylor**

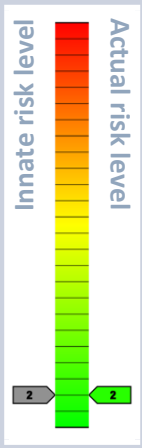
The assets on site are categorised as **Ancillary Items** or **Play Items**, and listed under those headings.

Each item is listed in the style shown in the image below, which contains labels to aid interpretation as follows:

1) The name of the asset
2) The manufacturer of the asset, if known,
3) The innate or default risk score of the asset, assuming it has no faults and complies with standards,
4) The actual risk score of the asset at the time of inspection, being the highest of the finding risks or the innate risk,
5) A statement about whether the item complies with the appropriate standards, including the names of those standards,
6) Details about findings, if any, including what is wrong (Description), what to do about it (Tasks), notes to aid understanding (Notes), and photograph(s) of the issue.



Signage - Ownership & User Age



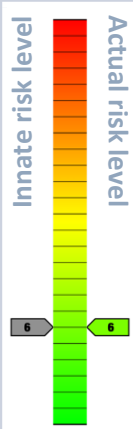
Risk level:

Very low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Gate - Self-Closing



Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

2

Maintenance Finding

Description

Entrapment on side(s) of the gate.

Tasks

Adjust gate / posts / fit new rubber buffer to ensure a spacing of at least 12 mm throughout the range of the gate to remove the entrapment. The 12 mm gap also should apply on the hinge side of the gate.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

The gate's closing mechanism does not work correctly.

Tasks

Adjust to allow gate to self close. Ideally gate from open should not close in less than 5 seconds.

Risk level:

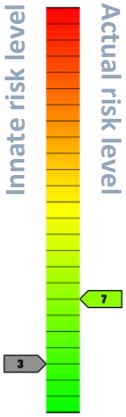
Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Fencing



Risk level:
Low

Potential risk score reduction:
4

Remedial tasks:
1

Maintenance Finding

Description

There is decay to timber components which may affect structural integrity. We do not recommend replacing rotten supports with timber posts which are directly set in the ground due to the increased problem of timber rot, especially in posts in contact with the ground.

Risk level:
Low

Risk score:
7

Tasks

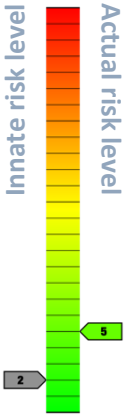
Replace decayed components where possible and plan replacement of item. Check on a routine basis, especially at ground or foundation level.

Note

Rot in supports - A new fence is recommended.

Finding Photos

Litter Bins



Risk level:
Low

Potential risk score reduction:
3

Remedial tasks:
2

Maintenance Finding

Description

Item has some parts missing.

Tasks

Replace the missing parts.

Note

Top of bin nearest car park.

Risk level:
Low

Risk score:
5

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Timber is rotting.

Tasks

Replace.

Note

Bin near gate, top logs rotten and missing.

Risk level:

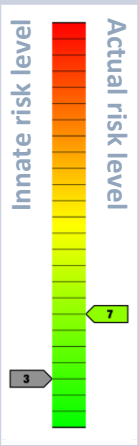
Low

Risk score:

5

Finding Photos

General Surface



Risk level:
Low

Potential risk score reduction:
4

Remedial tasks:
1

Maintenance Finding

Description

The geo-textile is exposed.

Tasks

Read the notes for further action.

Note

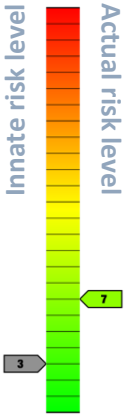
Trip points / uneven. Encourage the growth of grass. Remove textile and trip points.

Risk level:
Low

Risk score:
7

Finding Photos

Seating



Risk level:
Low

Potential risk score reduction:
4

Remedial tasks:
1

Maintenance Finding

Description

Trip points on the surface.

Tasks

Make level.

Note

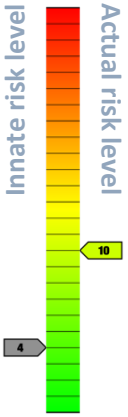
Roots - top-up earth and sow grass seed.

Risk level:
Low

Risk score:
7

Finding Photos

Hedgerow



Risk level:
Medium

Potential risk score reduction:
6

Remedial tasks:
1

Maintenance Finding

Description

Additional comments are noted below.

Tasks

Repair.

Note

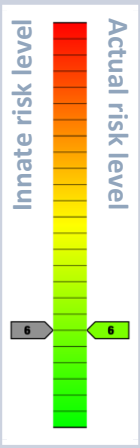
Holes allowing access to road. Vehicle sped noted as being quite fast. The inspector recommends installing a new additional barrier.

Risk level:
Medium

Risk score:
10

Finding Photos

Gates - Maintenance



Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

1

Maintenance Finding

Description

The item is unlocked.

Tasks

Lock.

Risk level:

Low

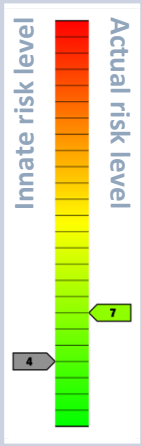
Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Swing - Toddler - 1 Bay 2 Seat

Manufactured by (Unknown)



Risk level:

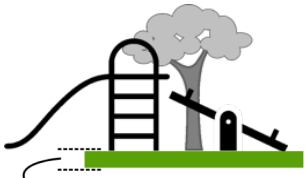
Low

Potential risk score reduction:

3

Remedial tasks:

3



Surface: Rubber - Tile

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-2:2017

The item or its surfacing are not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Trip points on the surface.

Tasks

Repair.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

The safer surface has hard edging / foundation within the impact area.

Tasks

Modify to remove the hazard.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

7

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Insufficient protective surfacing extent has been provided.

Tasks

Modify to meet the standard.

Note

Compacted earth within impact area. Consider installing an alternative surface.

Risk level:

Low

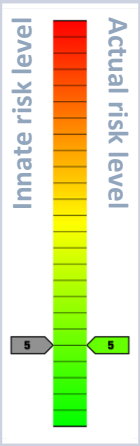
Risk score:

7

Finding Photos

Seesaw - Rocker

Manufactured by Sutcliffe Play Ltd



Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Surface: Grass Matting

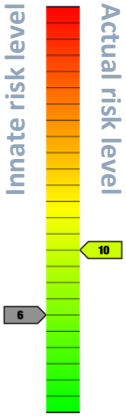
Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-6:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Slide

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



Risk level:

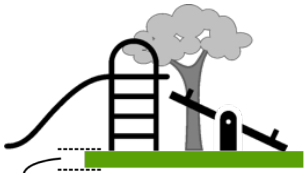
Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

4

Remedial tasks:

6



Surface: Bark / Woodchip

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-3:2017

The item or its surfacing are not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

The geo-textile is exposed.

Tasks

Secure beneath surface and ensure minimum depths are maintained.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Loose fill levels are too low to provide adequate protection.

Tasks

Rake and fork over and top up as required to maintain minimum depth (usually 300 mm).

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

10

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Paintwork is in poor condition.

Tasks

De-scale back to good base material and coat with lead free paint, using appropriate precautions. Repairs may be necessary where corrosion is severe.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Access fails the entrapment requirements.

Tasks

No reasonably practicable action is identified.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

5

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

There is a head entrapment.

Tasks

No reasonably practicable action is identified.

Note

Barrier stair gaps.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

There is a toggle entrapment.

Tasks

No reasonably practicable action is identified.

Risk level:

Low

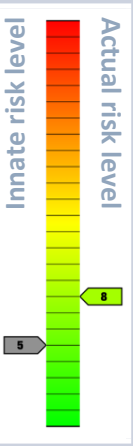
Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Swing - Junior - 1 Bay 2 Seat

Manufactured by (Unknown)



Risk level:

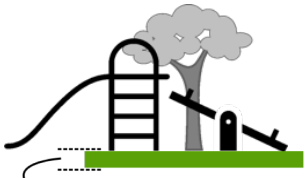
Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

3

Remedial tasks:

2



Surface: Rubber - Tile

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-2:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Trip points on the surface.

Tasks

Make level.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

7

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Worn ground areas.

Tasks

Make good.

Note

Compacted earth within the impact area.

Risk level:

Medium

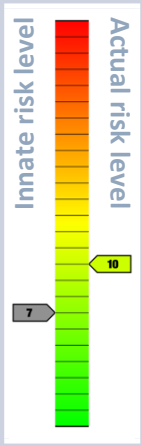
Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Multiplay

Manufactured by Lappset Group Ltd



Risk level:

Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

3

Remedial tasks:

3

Surface: Bark / Woodchip

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-3:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Timber is rotting.

Tasks

Replace rotten timbers.

Note

Rot and expansion damage due to internal corrosion.

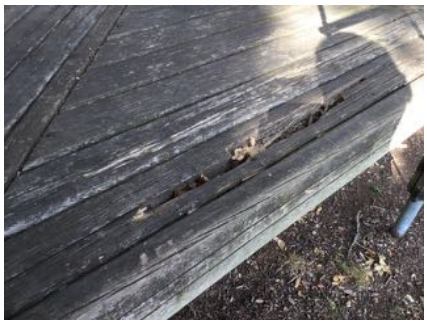
Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos



Maintenance Finding

Description

The item has been designed to meet the requirements of EN 1176. However, we are concerned about the design of the hand and foot holds of this item which we do not feel provide sufficient grip for children. This should be referred to Lappset for comment and an assurance of safety separate from standard compliances.

Risk level: Low

Risk score: 5

Tasks

Read the notes for further action.

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Loose fill levels are too low to provide adequate protection.

Risk level: Medium

Risk score: 10

Tasks

Top up to required depth (usually 300 mm).

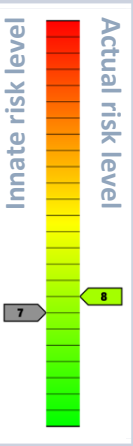
Note

Foundation exposed.

Finding Photos

Climber - Play Frame - Metal

Manufactured by Lappset Group Ltd



Risk level:

Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

1

Remedial tasks:

3

Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Fixtures loose or missing.

Tasks

Tighten/replace.

Note

Various hand / foot holds.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Rivets are missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

RoSPA is concerned by accidents on some types of overhead ladders and rings. However, there is a strong development value in these items.

Tasks

The protective surface under all bars and rings must be kept in good condition.

Risk level:

Medium

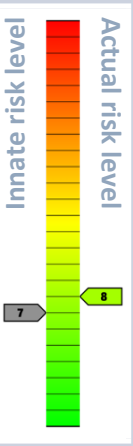
Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Rocker - Rocking Horse

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



Risk level:

Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

1

Remedial tasks:

3

Surface: Bark / Woodchip

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-6:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Additional comments are noted below.

Tasks

Repair.

Note

Missing skirt beneath allowing access to the mechanism.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

7

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Surface is compacted or displaced.

Tasks

Rake and fork over and top up as required to maintain minimum depth (usually 300 mm).

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

There is significant corrosion on this item.

Tasks

Read the notes for further action.

Note

Hand grip - Monitor.

Risk level:

Low

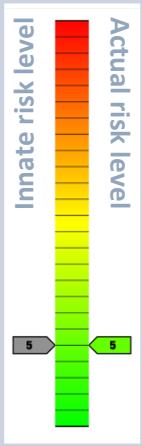
Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Carousel

Manufactured by Sutcliffe Play Ltd

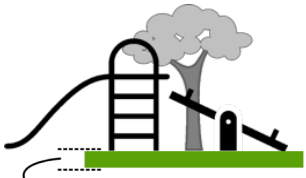


Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks



Surface: Rubber - Mulch - Bonded

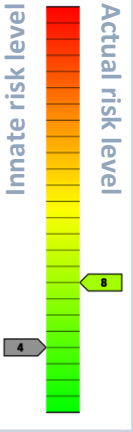
Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-5:2019

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Rocker - Reindeer

Manufactured by Lappset Group Ltd



Risk level:

Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

4

Remedial tasks:

2

Surface: Bark / Woodchip

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-6:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Item is cracked.

Tasks

Repair.

Note

Replace seat.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Surface is compacted or displaced.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Tasks

Rake and fork over and top up as required to maintain minimum depth (usually 300 mm).

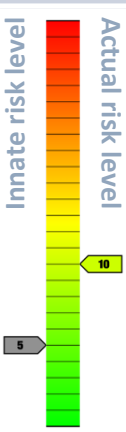
Note

Exposed roots and base plate within the impact area.

Finding Photos

Rocker - Seesaw - Spring

Manufactured by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd



Risk level:

Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

5

Remedial tasks:

4

Surface: Bark / Woodchip

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-6:2017

The item or its surfacing are not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Cap missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

4

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Item is not secure.

Tasks

Secure.

Note

Asset can be rotated off its base plate. Asset left in position as found.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

10

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Surface is compacted or displaced.

Tasks

Rake and fork over and top up as required to maintain minimum depth (usually 300 mm).

Note

Exposed foundations.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Protruding handles / foot rests.

Tasks

No reasonably practicable action is identified.

Risk level:

Very low

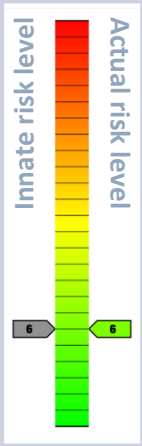
Risk score:

3

Finding Photos

Rotator - Basket

Manufactured by Huck Nets [UK] Ltd



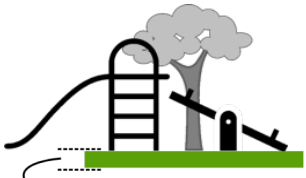
Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

1



Surface: Bark / Woodchip

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-5:2019
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Some chain wear.

Tasks

Read the notes for further action.

Note

Lower connection chains.

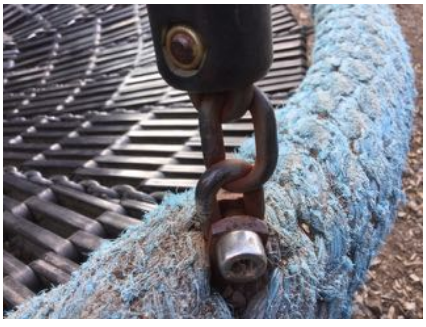
Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos



General Notes

The risk scores are calculated by plotting the likelihood of harm against the severity of the injury sustained. The likelihood is given a score of 1 to 5, and the severity is given a score of 1 to 5. In doing this a matrix is produced which gives a numerical assessment of the risk on a score of 1 to 25, and a judgement is made as to which risks are low, which are medium and which are high. Risk scores may be adjusted in the light of experience and therefore may not be exactly as per the table. For example, a score of 7 may be noted.

Risks are calculated in this way:

1. An assessment of the likelihood of harm taking place is made using the numbers 1 to 5, by following these descriptions:
    a. 1 = Rare
    b. 2 = Unlikely
    c. 3 = Moderate
    d. 4 = Likely
    e. 5 = Certain
2. An assessment of the severity of the injury sustained is made using the numbers 1 to 5, by following these descriptions:
    a. 1 = Insignificant
    b. 2 = Minor
    c. 3 = Moderate
    d. 4 = Major
    e. 5 = Catastrophic
3. The two numbers are multiplied to give a risk score on a scale of 1 to 25.
4. Scores of 1 to 7 inclusive are considered to be low risk and are considered to be tolerable where this is the innate risk of the item,
5. Scores of 8 to 12 are considered to be medium risk and some control measures may be identified to reduce the risks to low, tolerable levels,
6. Score of 13 and above are considered to be high risk and urgent action is considered to be necessary to reduce the risks to tolerable levels.

General Notes

It is important to note that where an outcome is catastrophic, but for which the likelihood is rare this will present a score of 1 x 5 = 5 = low risk. Similarly, a certain event for which the consequence is insignificant will present a score of 5 x 1 = 5 = low risk. It is important to consider likelihood and consequence, and not just one of the factors in isolation.

The multiplication of the factors into a risk matrix is given here in Table 1, with a judgement made as to risk scoring indicated by colour.

Green = LOW risk, Amber = MEDIUM risk, Red = HIGH risk.

Table 1 – Risk Score Matrix

		Severity				
Likelihood		1 Insignifi-cant	2 Minor	3 Moderate	4 Major	5 Catastro-phic
	1 = Rare	1 LOW	2 LOW	3 LOW	4 LOW	5 LOW
	2 = Unlikely	2 LOW	4 LOW	6 LOW	8 MEDIUM	10 MEDIUM
	3 = Moderate	3 LOW	6 LOW	9 MEDIUM	12 MEDIUM	15 HIGH
	4 = Likely	4 LOW	8 MEDIUM	12 MEDIUM	16 HIGH	20 HIGH
	5 = Certain	5 LOW	10 MEDIUM	15 HIGH	20 HIGH	25 HIGH

General Notes

Inspection Methodology
The inspections are undertaken using the RPII's inspection methodology.

Compliance with Standards
Inspections are undertaken with reference to the appropriate standards, which are listed next to each item. Compliance with these standards is not mandatory in law, but it is useful to know whether items comply or not. If we think a change is needed, then this is noted in our report. Non-compliance does not necessarily mean that a change is needed. Where a standard is undated the current version is applied, unless overlap periods are allowed by the standards committee at the time of update. The information provided herein is to assist the owner/operator to fulfil its responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standards. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of this inspection.

The listed standards are relevant to all installations of equipment which are publicly accessible, including public parks, pay to play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks and the like. All equipment used in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant listed standard.

Additionally, EN 1176-7 provides guidance on installation, inspection, maintenance and operation to owners/operators of equipment and ancillary items.

Domestic equipment falls outside the scope of standards for publicly accessible spaces. Domestic play equipment has its own standard (BS EN 71 – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report, but compliance may be assessed to the applicable standard relating to publicly accessible equipment.

Compliance with standards is not always a clear-cut thing. Some interpretation can be needed, and our interpretation may differ from the interpretation of others. In some cases, we may decide not to note non-compliance in cases where we think it may mislead or be unhelpful so to do.

What We Inspect
Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with current standards and defects related to wear and vandalism. Items not listed in the report have not been included in the inspection. The inspection will cover the playground equipment and the active area up to 3.0 metres around, or the fence line if closer.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to wear and vandalism. Routine visual inspections (if undertaken) relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).
The inspection is non-dismantling, non-destructive and does not include for any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a manual test for stability and if equipment fails under

manual load, or any other hazard is identified as an unacceptable risk, the owner/operator will be notified as soon as practicably possible.

The inspector will access all standing surfaces as necessary on the equipment and assess all parts up to 2.5m above the standing surface. Where it is not possible to access parts of the equipment without employing an alternative means of access the report will record the action required by the owner/operator to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment. Ancillary equipment will be assessed using the inspector's knowledge and experience of the standards named in this document to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable the continued safe use of the items concerned. The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area. Inspectors who are trained to use ladders may use them where it is safe to do so, but if members of the public are present on-site ladders may not be used to access the equipment.

What We Don't Inspect

The inspector will not undertake any of the following works unless specifically agreed in writing at the time of order:
Checking the depth and underlying structural integrity of any surface areas and/or carrying out any testing of impact absorbing properties of any surfaces. The identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection or the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is underground. Tightening any bolts, hinges or other fixing devices on any apparatus or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any electrical installations contained on any site and/or apparatus and/or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any water supplies and/or water features and/or any associated computerised systems (including carrying out any programming).
The owner/operator should have a 'design risk assessment' provided by the manufacturer/designer of the area for the equipment and location in which the facility is installed.
We have inspected without dismantling or destruction and so some aspects of the relevant standards may not be testable on site.
The operator is responsible for managing risks of their provision and is required by law to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient assessment' of the risks associated with a site or activity and this inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility.

Exposure to Risk

Exposure to acceptable levels of risk and challenge is essential to children's development and allows them to exercise their right to play. Therefore, it can be judged that levels of risk above low risk can be acceptable. The risk scores shown allow the operator to make a judgement after first considering the benefit of the activity to which the risk score relates.

Ownership

There may be cases where we report issues that are not the site owner's responsibility. It is not necessarily possible for us to determine who owns what, and in any case we need to bring all risks to your attention if they can affect the safety of the site's users.

General Notes

Contemporaneous Findings
Our report shows the findings at the time of inspection. Subsequent events may affect the condition of the site. Suggested remedial actions are based upon our knowledge and experience. The owner/operator should seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

Timber
Where timbers are set into the ground it is not always possible to determine levels of decay. The owner/operator should ensure it conducts appropriate inspections to identify decay before it becomes a problem.
We can undertake more in-depth testing of your playground timbers using a resistograph. Timber is known to decay from the inside out. This makes it very important that you ensure proper testing and inspection is undertaken of your playground timbers, especially where defects may be hidden inside the structures. Testing using a resistograph can help to identify defects before they become outwardly apparent, but can also confirm the condition of good timbers to prevent premature replacement with its associated costs.
The testing is undertaken using a specialist machine, which uses electronically controlled drill resistance measurement. The drill is fine enough that it does not cause permanent damage to reduce the lifespan of the equipment.
Please contact us for pricing and further information.

Planting and Trees
Where planting or trees are mentioned in our report please be advised that we do not undertake any arboricultural, horticultural or toxicological assessment of suitability or condition. You must ensure you undertake suitable inspections from an appropriate expert.

General Notes

How This Inspection Contributes to Your Annual Main Inspection

The owner/operator is responsible for following the guidance of the relevant standards. The standards give guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of the various types of facility. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in your RoSPA inspection [the items in the first column are the items which comprise an "Annual Main Inspection", the second column shows which elements form part of a RoSPA inspection, items with a cross are not included, some items may have limitations as shown in the notes to the Table 1). The standards also contain additional parts which the owner/operator should follow.

Table 1

Inspection Recommendations of relevant standards These form the Annual Main Inspection	**Included in RoSPA Inspection?**
6.1 and 6.2 c) Inspect and maintain in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions (see note 1)	✗ [1]
6.2 a) Identify obvious hazards	✓
6.2 b) Check for operation, stability and wear (see note 2)	✓ [2]
6.2 b) Check sealed for life parts	✗
6.2 b) Check for cleanliness, equipment ground clearances, ground surface finishes, exposed foundations, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear (of moving parts) and structural integrity (see note 2)	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of equipment	✓
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 2)	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of surface (see note 3)	✓ [3]
6.2 c) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard (see note 4)	✓ [4]
6.2 c) Undertaking the responsibility of the operator's periodic, systematic assessment of the effectiveness of all their safety measures (BS EN 1176-7, 8.2.1)	✗
6.2 c) Effects of weather	✓
6.2 c) Presence of rot or corrosion (see note 2)	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Assessment of repairs made/added or replaced components (see note 5)	✓ [5]
6.2 c) Excavation/dismantling/additional measures	✗
6.3.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 6)	✓ [6]
6.3.2 Maintenance of one post equipment (see note 2)	✓ [2]
N.B. The clause numbers above are taken from BS EN 1176-7. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards. Notes [1] Playgrounds contain a range of equipment from different manufacturers and installed over a number of years; operators should implement any guidance provided by the manufacturer. Item specific detail is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall Annual Main Inspection as detailed in the relevant standards [2] A manual test only is undertaken for stability. Wear and instability are only detectable where readily apparent without dismantling or destruction and without the use of tools, excavation or specialist equipment. Rot and corrosion are tested for with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment [3] Only the visible condition and dimensional compliance of surface extent is considered. Neither testing of impact attenuating properties nor measurement of the thickness of bound surfaces are undertaken on annual inspections [4] The inspection assesses compliance where this can be tested on site using manual methods without dismantling, destruction and without the use of tools or specialist equipment [5] The operator should use manufacturer's recommended parts, or equivalent. We are unable to verify if such parts have been used, and any subsequent change in quality or performance [6] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs or replacement.	

EN 1176 Notes – Summary of Requirements

PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES IN THE FREE SPACE
* No obstacles in the minimum space (other than structures to assist or safeguard the user)
* Traffic flows should not go through the minimum space

PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES IN THE FALLING SPACE
* Free height of fall should not exceed 3m * No obstacles in the falling space * Platforms with fall heights of more than 1m between them require surfacing

PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES DUE TO OTHER TYPES OF MOVEMENT
* No unexpected obstacles

SURFACING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
* Surfacing should have no sharp edges or protrusions * Loose fills should be 100mm more than the depth required to meet the HIC reading (usually 200mm) * Hard surfaces should only be used outside where children fall * Testable Impact absorbing surfaces if falls over 600mm are possible. Topsoil or turf may be used up to 1m

DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE
* The equipment must be suitable for the user and risks should be identifiable by the child * Accessibility: adults must be able to gain access to help children * Grip requirements: permitted diameter 16 - 45mm (i.e. overhead bars) * Grasp requirements: maximum diameter 60mm (e.g. handrails on steps)
* Requirements for easily accessible equipment

FINISHING
* Timber species and synthetics should be splinter resistant * No protrusions or sharp-edged components * Bolts should not protrude by more than 8mm * Corners, edges or projecting parts over 8mm should have a 3mm radius. * No hard and sharp-edged parts (e.g. razor blade effect caused by sheet steel) * No crushing or shearing points
* Connections should not come loose by themselves and should resist removal. * Timber connections should not rely solely on screws or nails. * Leaking lubricants should not stain or impair the safety of the equipment

FIBRE ROPES
* Conform to EN 701 or 919 or have a material and load certificate
* Ropes used by hands shall have a soft, non-slip covering

WIRE ROPES
* Non-rotating and corrosion resistant with no splayed wires outside the ferrule * Wire connector clip threads should protrude less than 8mm * Turnbuckles should be enclosed, have a loop at each end and be secured

CHAINS
* Maximum opening of individual links: 8.6mm in any one direction.
* Connecting links between chains must be less than 8.6mm or over 12mm

SWINGING SUSPENDED ROPES
* Not combined with swings in the same bay * Less than 2m long: over 600mm from static parts; over 900mm from swinging parts * 2m - 4m long: over 1000mm from anything * Diameter: 25 - 45mm

CLIMBING ROPES
* Anchored at both ends and movement less than 20% of rope length
* Single climbing rope diameter: 18 - 45mm (nets comply with Grip requirements)

ENTRAPMENTS
* Entrapment: a place from which children cannot extricate themselves unaided There are six probes: the Torso Probe, the Large Head Probe, The Small Head probe, the Wedge Probe and the two Finger Rods. There is a toggle test to reduce the dangers of clothing toggles being caught on slides, fireman's poles and roofs, and a ring gauge to test for rocker hand/foot rest protrusions.

BRIDGES
* The space between the flexible bridge and rigid sides should be not less than 230mm

ENTRAPMENT OF FEET AND LEGS
* Inclined planes (not suspension bridges) less than 38° should have no gaps over 30mm
* There are no requirements for suspension bridge gaps other than the main entrapment requirements

FINGER ENTRAPMENTS
These occur in: 1. gaps where child's movement may cause a finger to become stuck; 2. open-ended tubes; 3. moving gaps
* Tube ends should be securely enclosed and removable only with tools
* Moving gaps should not close to less than 12mm

BARRIERS AND GUARD-RAILS
* Hand-rail: a rail to help the child balance * Guard-rail: a rail to prevent children falling * Barrier: a guard-rail with non-climbable in-fill

HAND-RAILS
* Where required they should be between 600 and 850mm above the standing surface

EQUIPMENT FOR UNDER 3'S
* Platforms over 600mm require a barrier with a minimum height of 700mm high + impact absorbing surfacing

EQUIPMENT FOR OVER 3'S
* Platforms up to 1000mm: No barriers or guard-rails required + impact absorbing surface over * Platforms 1000-2000mm: 600 - 850mm high guard-rail + impact absorbing surfacing * Platforms 2000-3000mm: 700mm high barrier + impact absorbing surfacing * No bars, infills or steps which can be used as steps. Tops should discourage standing or sitting

MEANS OF ACCESS
The main change in this area is that the probes should now be applied to accesses. All means of access should have no entrapments; be securely fixed; be level to ± 3°(ramps across width) and have a constant angle. It does not refer to agility equipment used as an access i.e. arched climbers, scramble nets. There are specific measurements for ladders, stairs and ramps.

EN 1176 Notes – Summary of Requirements

SWINGS
The main changes relate to requirements for new types of swings, dimensions and surfacing areas.
REQUIREMENTS
* No all rigid suspension members (i.e. solid bar top to bottom) * Design should be principally for use by seated children (RoSPA interpretation) * Two seats per bay maximum. Do not mix cradle and flats seats in same bay * Some types of swings have slightly different requirements. Information should be obtained from the supplier * Single points swing chains should not twist round each other * Single point swings require a secondary bearing support mechanism
DIMENSIONS
* Minimum ground clearance at rest: 350mm (400mm for single point swings and tyres) * No maximum seat surface height but RoSPA recommends a max. height of 635mm for cradles and flat seats * Distance between seat and frame: 20% of swing suspension + 200mm * Distance between seats: 20% of the swing suspension + 300mm * Pivot splay (separation distance) at crossbar: width between seat fixings plus 5% of swing suspension length
SITING
* Swing sets for young children should be separated from those for older children and sited to avoid cross traffic
SURFACING REQUIREMENTS
Forward and Back
* Different areas for synthetic and loose-fill surfaces in a box or pit. Measurements each way are: 1. synthetic: 0.867 x length of suspension member + 1.75m 2. loose-fill: 0.867 x length of suspension member + 2.25m
Side width
* Seat width no greater than 500mm: 1.75m minimum (i.e. .875mm each way from seat centre)
* Areas for two seats in one bay may overlap providing the distance between seats is correct
Single point swings
* Circular area with a radius equal to the Forward and Backward figure for other swings

SLIDES
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
* Free-standing slides: the max. vertical height which a stairway can reach without a change of direction is 2.5m. * Starting section at the top of each chute: length 350mm minimum, zero to 5° downwards at the centre line.
N.B. This can be the platform if the slide is attached to it * If the starting section is over 400mm long, platform requirements apply * From a platform, the gap to the slide is the same width as the slide * Attachment slides over 1m free fall height should have starting section barriers 500mm min. high at one point * Attachment slides over 1m FFH should have a guard-rail across the entrance at a ht. of between 700-900mm
Sliding sections
* Maximum angle: 60° at any one point and an average of 40° * The width of open and straight slides over 1500mm long should be less than 700mm or greater than 950mm * Spiral or curved slides should have a width less than 700mm
RUN -OUTS
* Run-outs of at least 300mm are required if the sliding section is under 1.5m long. * Additional requirements are required for different types of slides * Average angle of run-outs: DIN type 10° (BS type) 5° (both downwards) * Height of run-out: Less than 1.5m sliding length: max. 200mm. Greater than 1.5m sliding length: max. 350mm * Users should come to a stop on the run-out section (BS type only)
* Chutes should have a side height related to the fall height: 1.2m: 100mm minimum : 1.2m - 2.5m: 150mm minimum : Over 2.5m: 500mm minimum
* Maximum side angle from slide bed: 30° * Tops of sides should be rounded or radiused to at least 3mm * Tunnel slides should be a minimum 750mm high and 750mm wide * Tunnels should start on or at the end of the starting section and be continuous over the sliding section only

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS
Normal distances except for the run-out which should be: * DIN type: 1m each side and 2m beyond (or just 1.5m beyond for short slides) * BS type: 1m each side and 1m beyond

CABLE RUNWAYS
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
* Stop at end should progressively slow down the traveller * Traveller should not be removable except with tools * No access to internal mechanism * Suspension mechanism: flexible, exclude risk of strangulation or be at least 2m above the ground in the middle * Where children hang by the hands, the grip should not be enclosed (i.e. a loop)
* Climbing should be discouraged onto the grip * Children should be able to get off the seat at any time (i.e. no loops or straps) * Maximum loaded (69.5kg) speed is 7m per second * If two cables are placed parallel the min. distance between them is 2m
IMPACT AREAS
* 2m either side of main cable

ROTATING ITEMS
The main changes are in clearer separation into different types. A change in the clearance between the underside and the ground will affect older items. The change should provide greater safety. NOTE: Rotating items under 500mm diameter are excluded from these requirements
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
* Maximum free height of fall: 1000mm (For overhead items: 1500 - 3000mm) * Max. speed at periphery under reasonable use: 5m per s econd. As no method is given, this cannot be tested * Hand grips should be between 16 - 45mm
SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS
There are specific requirements for different types of roundabout. The two most common ones are:
Platform roundabouts:

* Platforms should be circular and enclosed * All parts should revolve in the same direction * No super-structure over the edge of the platform * Mechanism should be enclosed * Height between underside and ground 60 – 110mm for 300mm in * Protective skirts should be of rigid material and have no burrs or other defects * The bottom edge should be flared towards the inside or protected
Giant revolving discs
* Clearance of underside at lowest point: 300mm * Max. platform height: 1m * Free space: 3m * Upper surface should be continuous, smooth and with no handles or grips * Underside should be continuous, smooth and without any radial variations (i.e. spokes) or indentations

MINIMUM SPACE

* Free space: Horizontal: 2m all round * Vertical head clearance from platform: sitting 1.5m ; standing 1.8m * Small rotating items under 500mm diameter are excluded but RoSPA suggests as for rocking items

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

* There are no special extra requirements for surfacing areas * Surfaces should be continuous underneath and level

ROCKING ITEMS

DEFINITIONS

* Rocking equipment which can be moved by the user and is supported from below
* Damping: any movement restricting device. (N.B. Springs are treated as self-damping)

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

* Throughout the range of movement gaps in all accessible joints should be under 12mm * Progressive restraint at extremity of movement is required * Foot rests should be provided where the ground clearance is less than 230mm * Hand grips should be provided for each seat or standing position
* Foot rests and hand grips should be firmly fixed and non-rotating * Hand grip diameter: 16 - 45mm (for toddler items: 30mm maximum) * Right -angled corners on moving equipment should be 20mm radius min. (e.g. a bird's beak)

MINIMUM SPACE

* 1000mm between items at maximum movement.

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

There are no special extra requirements for surfacing areas

INSTALLATION, INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION

SAFETY

* Appropriate safety systems must be established by the operator * No access should be allowed to unsafe equipment or areas * Records should be kept by the playground operator * Effectiveness of safety measures should be assessed annually * Signs should be provided giving owner details and emergency service contact points * Entrances for emergency services should be freely accessible
* Information on accidents should be kept (RoSPA has a suitable form)
* Staff and users should be safe during maintenance operations

INSPECTION

* Manufacturers will recommend the inspection frequency although some sites may need a daily check

Frequency
Routine visual inspections: identification of hazards from vandalism, use or weather conditions (RoSPA recommends a recorded daily or weekly inspection) Operational inspection: every 1 -3 months or as recommended. Checks operation, stability, wear etc. Annual main inspection: checks long-term levels of safety

* An inspection schedule should be prepared for each playground, listing components and methods
* Appropriate action should be taken if defects are noted

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

* Basic routine maintenance details should be supplied by the manufacturer

CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE

* This covers remedial work and repairs as required * Alterations should only be carried out after consultation & agreement with the supplier or a competent person

Playsafety Ltd
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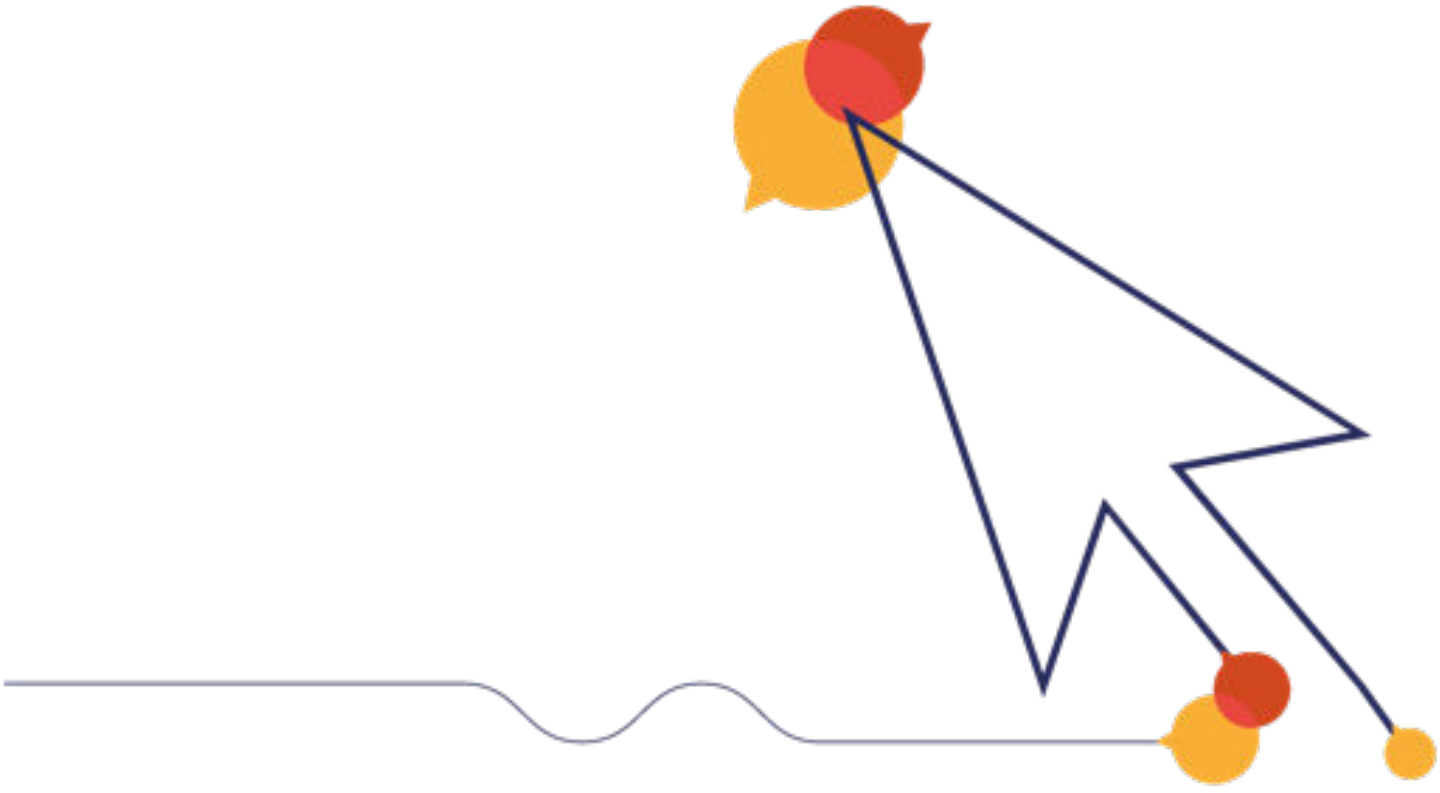
Safety Inspection Report

Annual Inspection

Hartenoak Road

Hawkhurst Parish Council

16 September 2021



Safety Inspection Report

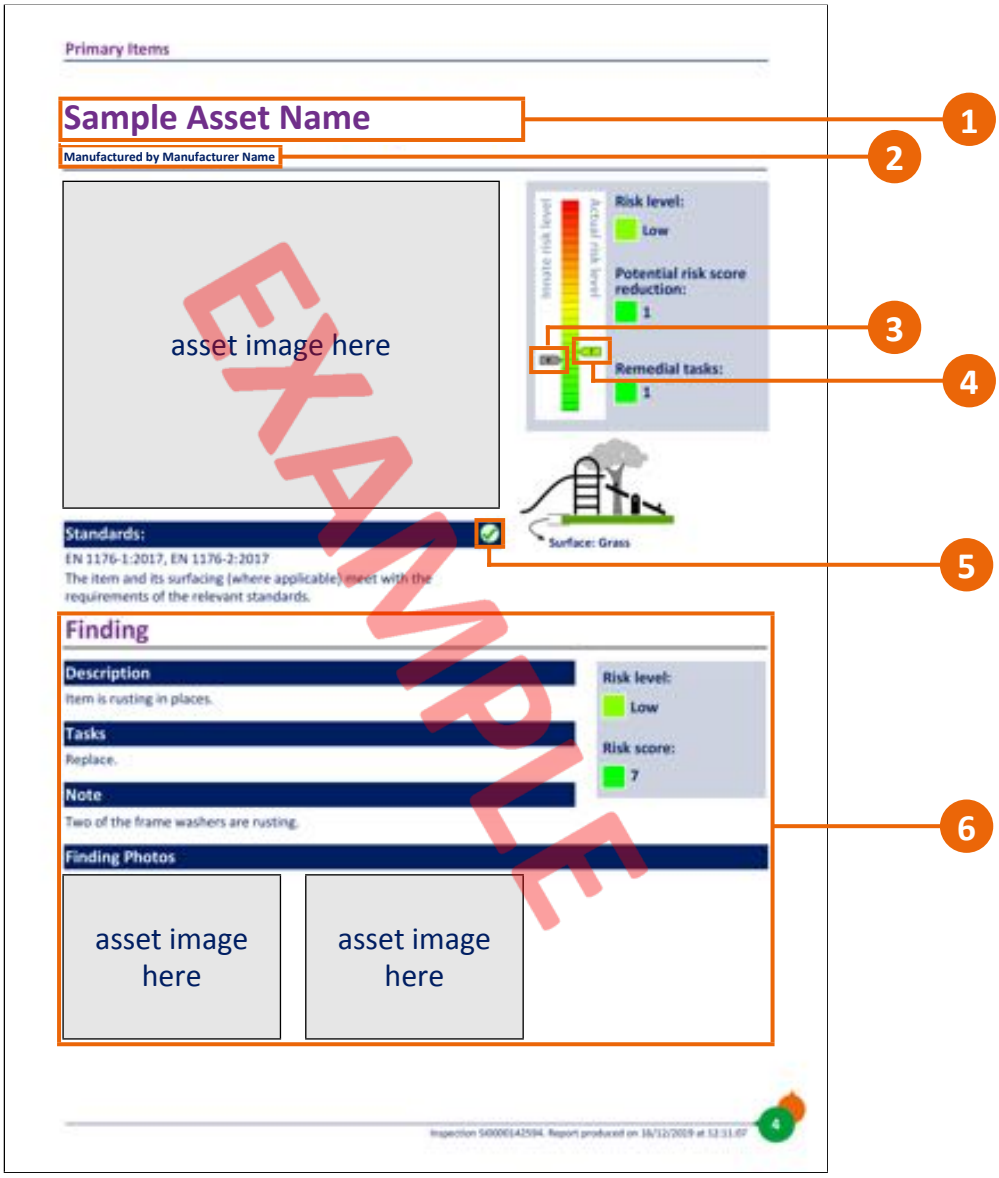
Annual Inspection

Site name: **Hartenoak Road**
Date of inspection: **16 September 2021**
Inspector: **Chris Taylor**

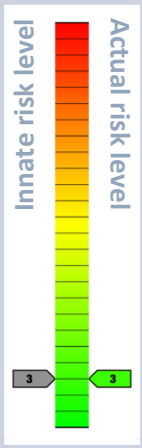
The assets on site are categorised as **Ancillary Items** or **Play Items**, and listed under those headings.

Each item is listed in the style shown in the image below, which contains labels to aid interpretation as follows:

1) The name of the asset
2) The manufacturer of the asset, if known,
3) The innate or default risk score of the asset, assuming it has no faults and complies with standards,
4) The actual risk score of the asset at the time of inspection, being the highest of the finding risks or the innate risk,
5) A statement about whether the item complies with the appropriate standards, including the names of those standards,
6) Details about findings, if any, including what is wrong (Description), what to do about it (Tasks), notes to aid understanding (Notes), and photograph(s) of the issue.



Fencing - Bow-Top



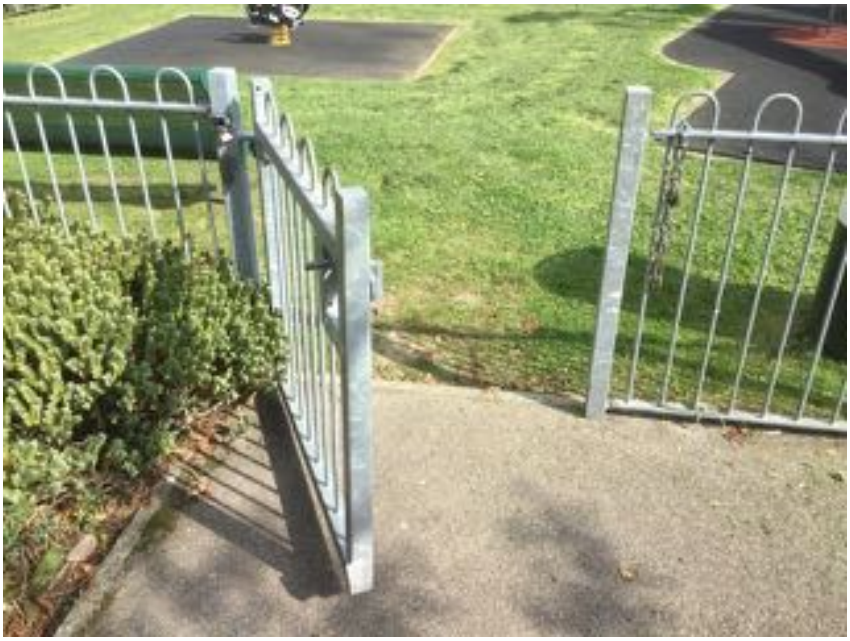
Risk level:

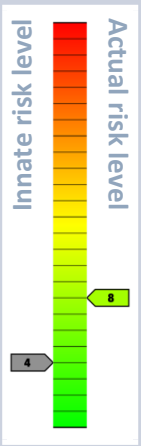
Very low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Gates - Self-Closing





Risk level:

Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

4

Remedial tasks:

3

Maintenance Finding

Description

Item is bent.

Tasks

Repair.

Note

Hinge bolts.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

5

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Item has some parts missing.

Tasks

Replace the missing parts.

Note

Gates have closer mechanisms missing.

Risk level: Low

Risk score: 6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Trip points on the surface.

Tasks

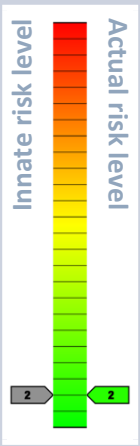
Make level.

Risk level: Medium

Risk score: 8

Finding Photos

Litter Bins



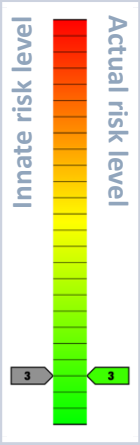
Risk level:

Very low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Seating - Metal - Perforated



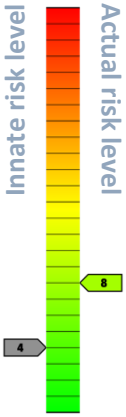
Risk level:

Very low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Gates - Maintenance



Risk level:
Medium

Potential risk score reduction:
4

Remedial tasks:
3

Maintenance Finding

Description

Projecting bolt thread.

Tasks

Cut off and file down to remove sharp edges or use the correct length of bolt.

Risk level:
Medium

Risk score:
8

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

The item is unlocked.

Tasks

Lock.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Minor repairs are needed.

Tasks

Repair.

Note

Reset gate on hinges. Usually one hinge is orientated to prevent this occurring.

Risk level:

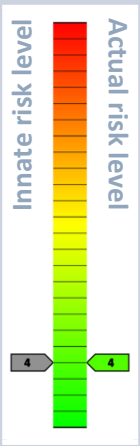
Low

Risk score:

5

Finding Photos

Seating - Frame - Metal



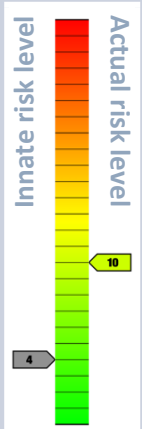
Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Gate - Pedestrian (to Hartenoak Lane)



Risk level:
Medium

Potential risk score reduction:
6

Remedial tasks:
1

Maintenance Finding

Description

Item broken.

Tasks

Replace.

Note

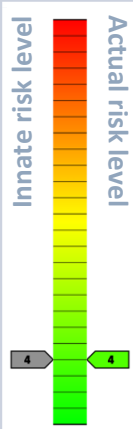
Gate and adjacent barrier. Sharp edges present.

Risk level:
Medium

Risk score:
10

Finding Photos

Seating - Frames - Metal - Slats - Plastic



Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

1

Maintenance Finding

Description

Cap missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Risk level:

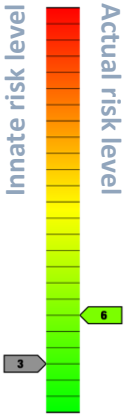
Low

Risk score:

4

Finding Photos

Seating - Picnic Table



Risk level:
Low

Potential risk score reduction:
3

Remedial tasks:
1

Maintenance Finding

Description

Projecting bolt thread.

Tasks

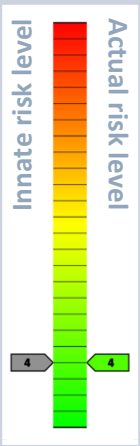
Cut off and file down to remove sharp edges or use the correct length of bolt.

Risk level:
Low

Risk score:
6

Finding Photos

Fencing - Post & Rail



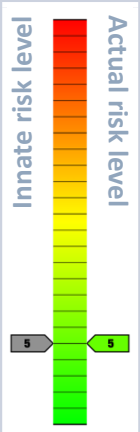
Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Fencing - Post & Wire Mesh



Risk level:

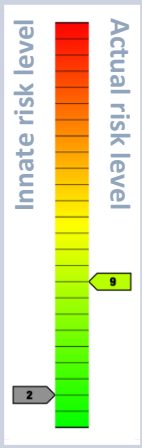
Low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Signage - Fitness

Photo not possible



Risk level:
Medium

Potential risk score reduction:
7

Remedial tasks:
1

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

An information sign displaying (all) the minimum information is not provided at equipment facilities in an easily conspicuous form.

Tasks

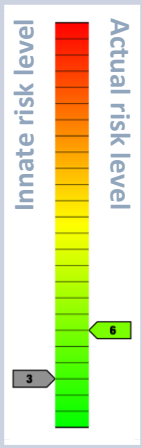
Refer to manufacturer for comment.

Risk level:
Medium

Risk score:
9

Photo not possible

Signage - Info & Ownership



Risk level:
Low

Potential risk score reduction:
3

Remedial tasks:
1

Maintenance Finding

Description

Dog ban & ownership signs recommended.

Tasks

(see http://www.rospa.com/leisuresafety/adviceandinformation/playsafety/signs.aspx).

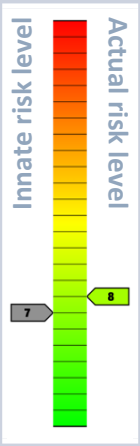
Risk level:
Low

Risk score:
6

Photo not possible

Multiplay - With Climber

Manufactured by Benito Urban, SLU



Risk level:

Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

1

Remedial tasks:

5

Surface: Wet Pour

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017

The item or its surfacing are not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Shrinkage / separation of the surface. This may give a trip hazard.

Tasks

Allow grass to establish in the gap, as this may prevent the wet pour from shrinking further.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Fixtures loose or missing.

Tasks

Tighten/replace.

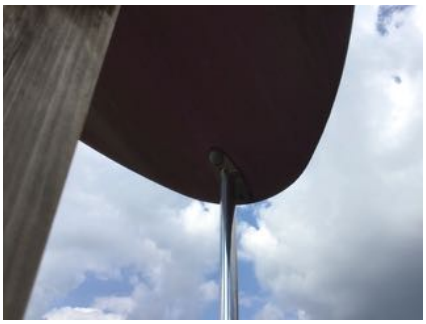
Note

Top of fireman’s pole.

Risk level: Low

Risk score: 7

Finding Photos



Maintenance Finding

Description

Rivets are missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Note

Rivet from top climbing wall fitting.

Risk level: Low

Risk score: 7

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Laminate damaged.

Tasks

Rub down and treat damaged edges.

Note

Slide edgings and platform.

Risk level: Low

Risk score: 6

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Wedge (head/neck) entrapment is present.

Tasks

No reasonably practicable action is identified.

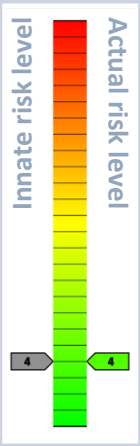
Risk level: Low

Risk score: 6

Finding Photos

Rocker - Cow

Manufactured by Park Leisure Ltd



Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Surface: Wet Pour

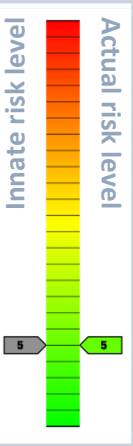
Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-6:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Rocker - Four Seat

Manufactured by Park Leisure Ltd



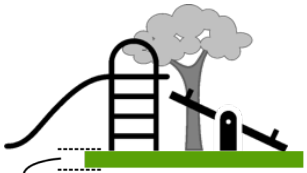
Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

2



Surface: Wet Pour

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-6:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Bolt cap damaged.

Tasks

Replace.

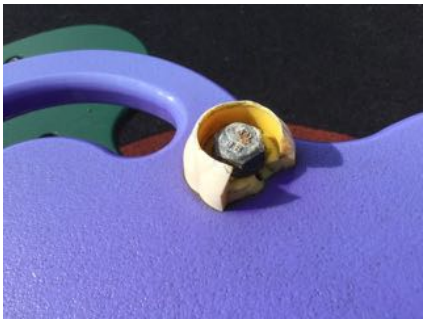
Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

4

Finding Photos



Maintenance Finding

Description

Paintwork is in poor condition.

Tasks

De-scale back to good base material and coat with lead free paint, using appropriate precautions. Repairs may be necessary where corrosion is severe.

Risk level:

Very low

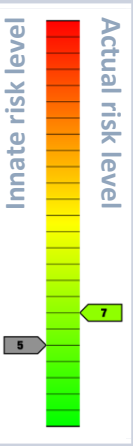
Risk score:

3

Finding Photos

Carousel

Manufactured by Park Leisure Ltd



Risk level:

Low

Potential risk score reduction:

2

Remedial tasks:

3

Surface: Wet Pour

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-5:2019

The item or its surfacing are not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Bolt(s) missing.

Tasks

Replace missing bolt(s).

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

7

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Cap missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Note

Under seats.

Risk level: Low

Risk score: 4

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Clearance between the underside of the roundabout and the surface is incorrect.

Tasks

No reasonably practicable action is identified.

Note

Crushing injuries are possible.

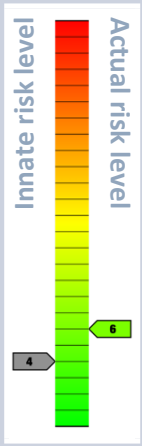
Risk level: Low

Risk score: 7

Finding Photos

Swing - Toddler - 1 Bay 2 Seat

Manufactured by Park Leisure Ltd



Risk level:

Low

Potential risk score reduction:

2

Remedial tasks:

2

Surface: Wet Pour

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-2:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Shrinkage / separation of the surface. This may give a trip hazard.

Tasks

Allow grass to establish in the gap, as this may prevent the wet pour from shrinking further.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Trip points on the surface.

Tasks

Make level.

Note

Build up earth level and sow grass seed.

Risk level:

Low

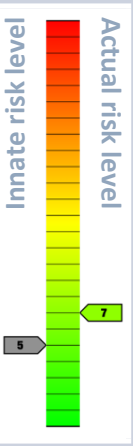
Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Natural Play - Tree Trunk - Sign

Manufactured by (Unknown)



Risk level:

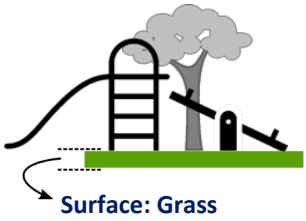
Low

Potential risk score reduction:

2

Remedial tasks:

1



Surface: Grass

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Timber is decayed.

Tasks

Check on a routine basis.

Note

Monitor and plan to replace / remove.

Risk level:

Low

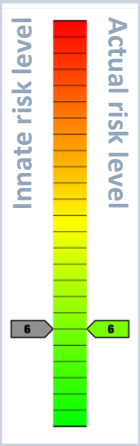
Risk score:

7

Finding Photos

Parallel Bars

Manufactured by (Unknown)

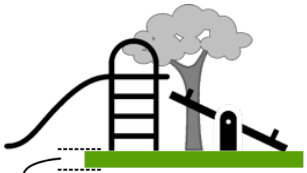


Risk level:

Low

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks



Surface: Grass

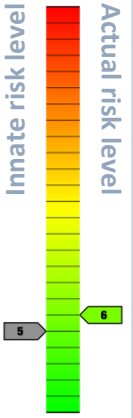
Standards:

EN 16630:2015

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Swing - Junior - 1 Bay 2 Seat

Manufactured by Playdale Playgrounds Ltd



Risk level:

Low

Potential risk score reduction:

1

Remedial tasks:

2

Surface: Wet Pour

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-2:2017
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Cap missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Note

At frame fitting.

Risk level:

Very low

Risk score:

3

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

The swing seat has been damaged, but does not require immediate replacement.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

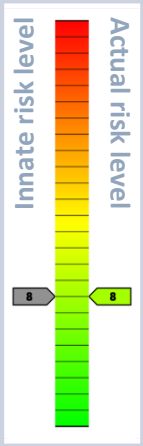
Tasks

Monitor and replace when hard material is exposed.

Finding Photos

Goal Posts - 5-a-side

Manufactured by Edwards Sports Products Ltd



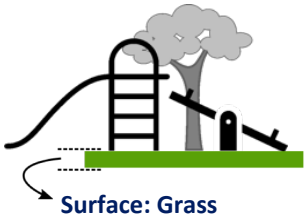
Risk level:

Medium

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

2



Surface: Grass

Standards:

BS 8461:2005+A1:2009, EN 16579:2018

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

The structural tests within EN 748 / EN 16579 have not been done during this inspection. These can be conducted by separate arrangement.

Tasks

Arrange to conduct the appropriate tests.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Photo not possible

Maintenance Finding

Description

Projecting bolt thread.

Tasks

Cut off and file down to remove sharp edges or use the correct length of bolt.

Note

Remove tape and cut back.

Risk level:

Low

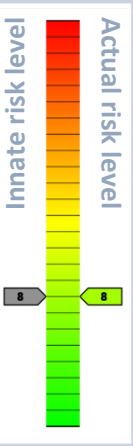
Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Climber - Rock Pile

Manufactured by (Unknown)



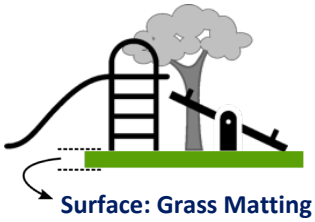
Risk level:

Medium

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

1



Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017

The item or its surfacing are not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Impact attenuating surfacing is required as the free height of fall exceeds 1000 mm between adjacent platforms.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Tasks

Refer to manufacturer for comment.

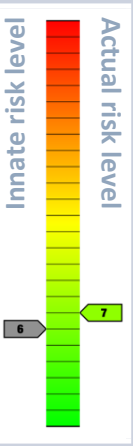
Note

There is the potential for falls between rocks.

Finding Photos

Natural Play - Boulders

Manufactured by (Unknown)



Risk level:

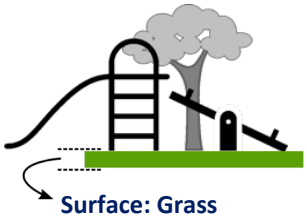
Low

Potential risk score reduction:

1

Remedial tasks:

2



Surface: Grass

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017

The item or its surfacing are not compliant with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

Edges not radiused or chamfered.

Tasks

Provide a minimum 3 mm radius.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

7

Finding Photos

Standard Compliance Finding

Description

The free space and / or falling space contains obstacles or equipment parts that are not permitted.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

7

Tasks

Read the notes for further action.

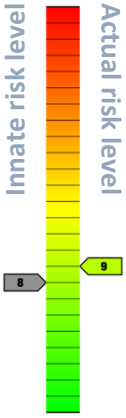
Note

Rocks in each others free space area - Consider moving so that rocks are less than 400 mm or greater than 1500 mm apart.

Finding Photos

Swing - Basket

Manufactured by (Unknown)



Risk level:

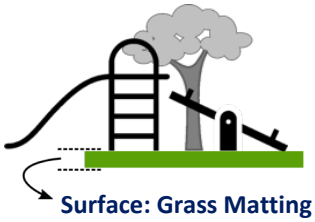
Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

1

Remedial tasks:

3



Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-2:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

The supporting components should be dismantled and inspected according to the manufacturer's instructions. This will need doing on a regular basis.

Tasks

Dismantle and inspect according to manufacturer's instructions.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Item has some parts missing.

Tasks

Replace the missing parts.

Note

Support protection buffer.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

This equipment relies on one post for its stability. Special attention should be paid to maintenance (e.g. by monitoring degradation) and if necessary decommissioning the item before the end of its operating life.

Tasks

Consult with the manufacturer's guidance to determine suitable maintenance.

Risk level:

Medium

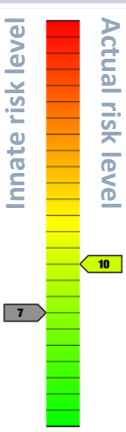
Risk score:

9

Finding Photos

Cableway

Manufactured by (Unknown)



Risk level:

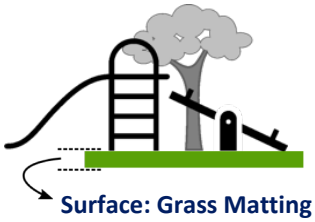
Medium

Potential risk score reduction:

3

Remedial tasks:

4



Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 1176-1:2017, EN 1176-4:2017

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Chain covers prevent a thorough inspection of all chain links.

Tasks

Remove chain covers to inspect according to manufacturer's instructions.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

The supporting components should be dismantled and inspected according to the manufacturer's instructions. This will need doing on a regular basis.

Tasks

Dismantle and inspect according to manufacturer's instructions.

Risk level:

Medium

Risk score:

8

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Fixtures loose or missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Surface is uneven.

Tasks

Make good.

Note

Concealed burrow.

Risk level:

Medium

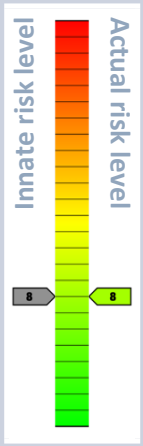
Risk score:

10

Finding Photos

Fitness - Cross Trainer - Seated

Manufactured by Streetscape Products & Services Ltd



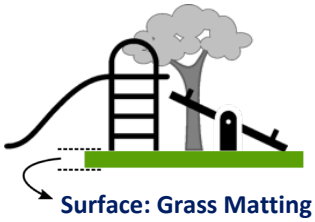
Risk level:

Medium

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

2



Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 16630:2015
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Cap missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Additional comments are noted below.

Tasks

Read the notes for further action.

Note

Asset retaining water which may result in internal corrosion - Drain and prevent future accumulation.

Risk level:

Low

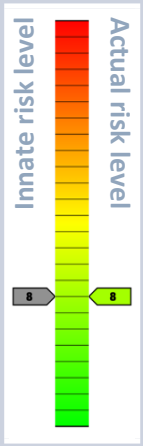
Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Fitness - Cross Trainer - Twin

Manufactured by Streetscape Products & Services Ltd



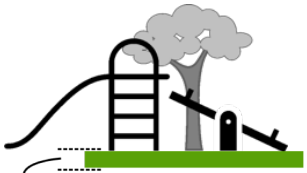
Risk level:

Medium

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

1



Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 16630:2015
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Cap missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Risk level:

Low

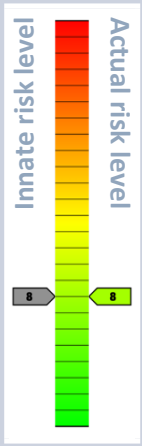
Risk score:

5

Finding Photos

Fitness - Cycle & Stepper

Manufactured by Streetscape Products & Services Ltd



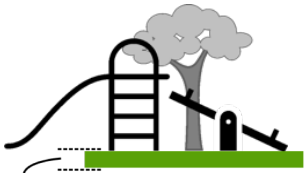
Risk level:

Medium

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

2



Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 16630:2015
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Cap missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Maintenance Finding

Description

Item is damaged.

Tasks

Replace.

Note

Sign.

Risk level:

Low

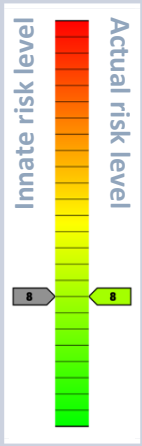
Risk score:

4

Finding Photos

Fitness - Leg Lifts

Manufactured by Streetscape Products & Services Ltd



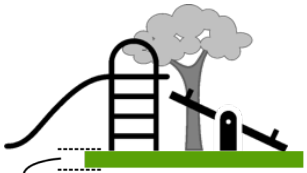
Risk level:

Medium

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

1



Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 16630:2015
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Cap missing.

Tasks

Replace.

Risk level:

Low

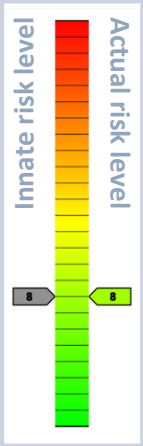
Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

Fitness - Bench / Bar

Manufactured by Streetscape Products & Services Ltd



Risk level:

Medium

Risk score as low as possible

No remedial tasks

Surface: Grass Matting

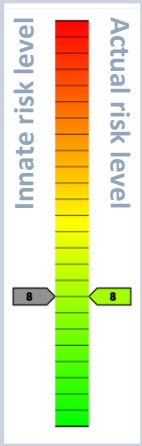
Standards:

EN 16630:2015

The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Fitness - Hand Wheels

Manufactured by Streetscape Products & Services Ltd



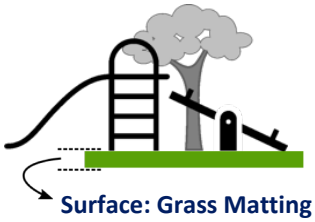
Risk level:

Medium

Risk score as low as possible

Remedial tasks:

1



Surface: Grass Matting

Standards:

EN 16630:2015
The item and its surfacing (where applicable) meet with the requirements of the relevant standards.

Maintenance Finding

Description

Welds are cracked.

Tasks

Repair.

Risk level:

Low

Risk score:

6

Finding Photos

General Notes

The risk scores are calculated by plotting the likelihood of harm against the severity of the injury sustained. The likelihood is given a score of 1 to 5, and the severity is given a score of 1 to 5. In doing this a matrix is produced which gives a numerical assessment of the risk on a score of 1 to 25, and a judgement is made as to which risks are low, which are medium and which are high. Risk scores may be adjusted in the light of experience and therefore may not be exactly as per the table. For example, a score of 7 may be noted.

Risks are calculated in this way:

1. An assessment of the likelihood of harm taking place is made using the numbers 1 to 5, by following these descriptions:
    a. 1 = Rare
    b. 2 = Unlikely
    c. 3 = Moderate
    d. 4 = Likely
    e. 5 = Certain
2. An assessment of the severity of the injury sustained is made using the numbers 1 to 5, by following these descriptions:
    a. 1 = Insignificant
    b. 2 = Minor
    c. 3 = Moderate
    d. 4 = Major
    e. 5 = Catastrophic
3. The two numbers are multiplied to give a risk score on a scale of 1 to 25.
4. Scores of 1 to 7 inclusive are considered to be low risk and are considered to be tolerable where this is the innate risk of the item,
5. Scores of 8 to 12 are considered to be medium risk and some control measures may be identified to reduce the risks to low, tolerable levels,
6. Score of 13 and above are considered to be high risk and urgent action is considered to be necessary to reduce the risks to tolerable levels.

General Notes

It is important to note that where an outcome is catastrophic, but for which the likelihood is rare this will present a score of 1 x 5 = 5 = low risk. Similarly, a certain event for which the consequence is insignificant will present a score of 5 x 1 = 5 = low risk. It is important to consider likelihood and consequence, and not just one of the factors in isolation.

The multiplication of the factors into a risk matrix is given here in Table 1, with a judgement made as to risk scoring indicated by colour.

Green = LOW risk, Amber = MEDIUM risk, Red = HIGH risk.

Table 1 – Risk Score Matrix

		Severity				
Likelihood		1 Insignifi-cant	2 Minor	3 Moderate	4 Major	5 Catastro-phic
	1 = Rare	1 LOW	2 LOW	3 LOW	4 LOW	5 LOW
	2 = Unlikely	2 LOW	4 LOW	6 LOW	8 MEDIUM	10 MEDIUM
	3 = Moderate	3 LOW	6 LOW	9 MEDIUM	12 MEDIUM	15 HIGH
	4 = Likely	4 LOW	8 MEDIUM	12 MEDIUM	16 HIGH	20 HIGH
	5 = Certain	5 LOW	10 MEDIUM	15 HIGH	20 HIGH	25 HIGH

General Notes

Inspection Methodology
The inspections are undertaken using the RPII's inspection methodology.

Compliance with Standards
Inspections are undertaken with reference to the appropriate standards, which are listed next to each item. Compliance with these standards is not mandatory in law, but it is useful to know whether items comply or not. If we think a change is needed, then this is noted in our report. Non-compliance does not necessarily mean that a change is needed. Where a standard is undated the current version is applied, unless overlap periods are allowed by the standards committee at the time of update. The information provided herein is to assist the owner/operator to fulfil its responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standards. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of this inspection.

The listed standards are relevant to all installations of equipment which are publicly accessible, including public parks, pay to play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks and the like. All equipment used in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant listed standard.

Additionally, EN 1176-7 provides guidance on installation, inspection, maintenance and operation to owners/operators of equipment and ancillary items.

Domestic equipment falls outside the scope of standards for publicly accessible spaces. Domestic play equipment has its own standard (BS EN 71 – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report, but compliance may be assessed to the applicable standard relating to publicly accessible equipment.

Compliance with standards is not always a clear-cut thing. Some interpretation can be needed, and our interpretation may differ from the interpretation of others. In some cases, we may decide not to note non-compliance in cases where we think it may mislead or be unhelpful so to do.

What We Inspect
Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with current standards and defects related to wear and vandalism. Items not listed in the report have not been included in the inspection. The inspection will cover the playground equipment and the active area up to 3.0 metres around, or the fence line if closer.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to wear and vandalism. Routine visual inspections (if undertaken) relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).
The inspection is non-dismantling, non-destructive and does not include for any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a manual test for stability and if equipment fails under

manual load, or any other hazard is identified as an unacceptable risk, the owner/operator will be notified as soon as practicably possible.

The inspector will access all standing surfaces as necessary on the equipment and assess all parts up to 2.5m above the standing surface. Where it is not possible to access parts of the equipment without employing an alternative means of access the report will record the action required by the owner/operator to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment. Ancillary equipment will be assessed using the inspector's knowledge and experience of the standards named in this document to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable the continued safe use of the items concerned. The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area. Inspectors who are trained to use ladders may use them where it is safe to do so, but if members of the public are present on-site ladders may not be used to access the equipment.

What We Don't Inspect

The inspector will not undertake any of the following works unless specifically agreed in writing at the time of order:
Checking the depth and underlying structural integrity of any surface areas and/or carrying out any testing of impact absorbing properties of any surfaces. The identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection or the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is underground. Tightening any bolts, hinges or other fixing devices on any apparatus or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any electrical installations contained on any site and/or apparatus and/or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any water supplies and/or water features and/or any associated computerised systems (including carrying out any programming).
The owner/operator should have a 'design risk assessment' provided by the manufacturer/designer of the area for the equipment and location in which the facility is installed.
We have inspected without dismantling or destruction and so some aspects of the relevant standards may not be testable on site.
The operator is responsible for managing risks of their provision and is required by law to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient assessment' of the risks associated with a site or activity and this inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility.

Exposure to Risk

Exposure to acceptable levels of risk and challenge is essential to children's development and allows them to exercise their right to play. Therefore, it can be judged that levels of risk above low risk can be acceptable. The risk scores shown allow the operator to make a judgement after first considering the benefit of the activity to which the risk score relates.

Ownership

There may be cases where we report issues that are not the site owner's responsibility. It is not necessarily possible for us to determine who owns what, and in any case we need to bring all risks to your attention if they can affect the safety of the site's users.

General Notes

Contemporaneous Findings
Our report shows the findings at the time of inspection. Subsequent events may affect the condition of the site. Suggested remedial actions are based upon our knowledge and experience. The owner/operator should seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

Timber
Where timbers are set into the ground it is not always possible to determine levels of decay. The owner/operator should ensure it conducts appropriate inspections to identify decay before it becomes a problem.
We can undertake more in-depth testing of your playground timbers using a resistograph. Timber is known to decay from the inside out. This makes it very important that you ensure proper testing and inspection is undertaken of your playground timbers, especially where defects may be hidden inside the structures. Testing using a resistograph can help to identify defects before they become outwardly apparent, but can also confirm the condition of good timbers to prevent premature replacement with its associated costs.
The testing is undertaken using a specialist machine, which uses electronically controlled drill resistance measurement. The drill is fine enough that it does not cause permanent damage to reduce the lifespan of the equipment.
Please contact us for pricing and further information.

Planting and Trees
Where planting or trees are mentioned in our report please be advised that we do not undertake any arboricultural, horticultural or toxicological assessment of suitability or condition. You must ensure you undertake suitable inspections from an appropriate expert.

General Notes

How This Inspection Contributes to Your Annual Main Inspection

The owner/operator is responsible for following the guidance of the relevant standards. The standards give guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of the various types of facility. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in your RoSPA inspection [the items in the first column are the items which comprise an "Annual Main Inspection", the second column shows which elements form part of a RoSPA inspection, items with a cross are not included, some items may have limitations as shown in the notes to the Table 1). The standards also contain additional parts which the owner/operator should follow.

Table 1

Inspection Recommendations of relevant standards These form the Annual Main Inspection	**Included in RoSPA Inspection?**
6.1 and 6.2 c) Inspect and maintain in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions (see note 1)	✗ [1]
6.2 a) Identify obvious hazards	✓
6.2 b) Check for operation, stability and wear (see note 2)	✓ [2]
6.2 b) Check sealed for life parts	✗
6.2 b) Check for cleanliness, equipment ground clearances, ground surface finishes, exposed foundations, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear (of moving parts) and structural integrity (see note 2)	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of equipment	✓
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 2)	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of surface (see note 3)	✓ [3]
6.2 c) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard (see note 4)	✓ [4]
6.2 c) Undertaking the responsibility of the operator's periodic, systematic assessment of the effectiveness of all their safety measures (BS EN 1176-7, 8.2.1)	✗
6.2 c) Effects of weather	✓
6.2 c) Presence of rot or corrosion (see note 2)	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Assessment of repairs made/added or replaced components (see note 5)	✓ [5]
6.2 c) Excavation/dismantling/additional measures	✗
6.3.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 6)	✓ [6]
6.3.2 Maintenance of one post equipment (see note 2)	✓ [2]
N.B. The clause numbers above are taken from BS EN 1176-7. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards. Notes [1] Playgrounds contain a range of equipment from different manufacturers and installed over a number of years; operators should implement any guidance provided by the manufacturer. Item specific detail is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall Annual Main Inspection as detailed in the relevant standards [2] A manual test only is undertaken for stability. Wear and instability are only detectable where readily apparent without dismantling or destruction and without the use of tools, excavation or specialist equipment. Rot and corrosion are tested for with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment [3] Only the visible condition and dimensional compliance of surface extent is considered. Neither testing of impact attenuating properties nor measurement of the thickness of bound surfaces are undertaken on annual inspections [4] The inspection assesses compliance where this can be tested on site using manual methods without dismantling, destruction and without the use of tools or specialist equipment [5] The operator should use manufacturer's recommended parts, or equivalent. We are unable to verify if such parts have been used, and any subsequent change in quality or performance [6] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs or replacement.	

EN 1176 Notes – Summary of Requirements

PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES IN THE FREE SPACE
* No obstacles in the minimum space (other than structures to assist or safeguard the user)
* Traffic flows should not go through the minimum space

PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES IN THE FALLING SPACE
* Free height of fall should not exceed 3m * No obstacles in the falling space * Platforms with fall heights of more than 1m between them require surfacing

PROTECTION AGAINST INJURIES DUE TO OTHER TYPES OF MOVEMENT
* No unexpected obstacles

SURFACING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
* Surfacing should have no sharp edges or protrusions * Loose fills should be 100mm more than the depth required to meet the HIC reading (usually 200mm) * Hard surfaces should only be used outside where children fall * Testable Impact absorbing surfaces if falls over 600mm are possible. Topsoil or turf may be used up to 1m

DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE
* The equipment must be suitable for the user and risks should be identifiable by the child * Accessibility: adults must be able to gain access to help children * Grip requirements: permitted diameter 16 - 45mm (i.e. overhead bars) * Grasp requirements: maximum diameter 60mm (e.g. handrails on steps)
* Requirements for easily accessible equipment

FINISHING
* Timber species and synthetics should be splinter resistant * No protrusions or sharp-edged components * Bolts should not protrude by more than 8mm * Corners, edges or projecting parts over 8mm should have a 3mm radius. * No hard and sharp-edged parts (e.g. razor blade effect caused by sheet steel) * No crushing or shearing points
* Connections should not come loose by themselves and should resist removal. * Timber connections should not rely solely on screws or nails. * Leaking lubricants should not stain or impair the safety of the equipment

FIBRE ROPES
* Conform to EN 701 or 919 or have a material and load certificate
* Ropes used by hands shall have a soft, non-slip covering

WIRE ROPES
* Non-rotating and corrosion resistant with no splayed wires outside the ferrule * Wire connector clip threads should protrude less than 8mm * Turnbuckles should be enclosed, have a loop at each end and be secured

CHAINS
* Maximum opening of individual links: 8.6mm in any one direction.
* Connecting links between chains must be less than 8.6mm or over 12mm

SWINGING SUSPENDED ROPES
* Not combined with swings in the same bay * Less than 2m long: over 600mm from static parts; over 900mm from swinging parts * 2m - 4m long: over 1000mm from anything * Diameter: 25 - 45mm

CLIMBING ROPES
* Anchored at both ends and movement less than 20% of rope length
* Single climbing rope diameter: 18 - 45mm (nets comply with Grip requirements)

ENTRAPMENTS
* Entrapment: a place from which children cannot extricate themselves unaided There are six probes: the Torso Probe, the Large Head Probe, The Small Head probe, the Wedge Probe and the two Finger Rods. There is a toggle test to reduce the dangers of clothing toggles being caught on slides, fireman's poles and roofs, and a ring gauge to test for rocker hand/foot rest protrusions.

BRIDGES
* The space between the flexible bridge and rigid sides should be not less than 230mm

ENTRAPMENT OF FEET AND LEGS
* Inclined planes (not suspension bridges) less than 38° should have no gaps over 30mm
* There are no requirements for suspension bridge gaps other than the main entrapment requirements

FINGER ENTRAPMENTS
These occur in: 1. gaps where child's movement may cause a finger to become stuck; 2. open-ended tubes; 3. moving gaps
* Tube ends should be securely enclosed and removable only with tools
* Moving gaps should not close to less than 12mm

BARRIERS AND GUARD-RAILS
* Hand-rail: a rail to help the child balance * Guard-rail: a rail to prevent children falling * Barrier: a guard-rail with non-climbable in-fill

HAND-RAILS
* Where required they should be between 600 and 850mm above the standing surface

EQUIPMENT FOR UNDER 3'S
* Platforms over 600mm require a barrier with a minimum height of 700mm high + impact absorbing surfacing

EQUIPMENT FOR OVER 3'S
* Platforms up to 1000mm: No barriers or guard-rails required + impact absorbing surface over * Platforms 1000-2000mm: 600 - 850mm high guard-rail + impact absorbing surfacing * Platforms 2000-3000mm: 700mm high barrier + impact absorbing surfacing * No bars, infills or steps which can be used as steps. Tops should discourage standing or sitting

MEANS OF ACCESS
The main change in this area is that the probes should now be applied to accesses. All means of access should have no entrapments; be securely fixed; be level to ± 3°(ramps across width) and have a constant angle. It does not refer to agility equipment used as an access i.e. arched climbers, scramble nets. There are specific measurements for ladders, stairs and ramps.

EN 1176 Notes – Summary of Requirements

SWINGS
The main changes relate to requirements for new types of swings, dimensions and surfacing areas.
REQUIREMENTS
* No all rigid suspension members (i.e. solid bar top to bottom) * Design should be principally for use by seated children (RoSPA interpretation) * Two seats per bay maximum. Do not mix cradle and flats seats in same bay * Some types of swings have slightly different requirements. Information should be obtained from the supplier * Single points swing chains should not twist round each other * Single point swings require a secondary bearing support mechanism
DIMENSIONS
* Minimum ground clearance at rest: 350mm (400mm for single point swings and tyres) * No maximum seat surface height but RoSPA recommends a max. height of 635mm for cradles and flat seats * Distance between seat and frame: 20% of swing suspension + 200mm * Distance between seats: 20% of the swing suspension + 300mm * Pivot splay (separation distance) at crossbar: width between seat fixings plus 5% of swing suspension length
SITING
* Swing sets for young children should be separated from those for older children and sited to avoid cross traffic
SURFACING REQUIREMENTS
Forward and Back
* Different areas for synthetic and loose-fill surfaces in a box or pit. Measurements each way are: 1. synthetic: 0.867 x length of suspension member + 1.75m 2. loose-fill: 0.867 x length of suspension member + 2.25m
Side width
* Seat width no greater than 500mm: 1.75m minimum (i.e. .875mm each way from seat centre)
* Areas for two seats in one bay may overlap providing the distance between seats is correct
Single point swings
* Circular area with a radius equal to the Forward and Backward figure for other swings

SLIDES
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
* Free-standing slides: the max. vertical height which a stairway can reach without a change of direction is 2.5m. * Starting section at the top of each chute: length 350mm minimum, zero to 5° downwards at the centre line.
N.B. This can be the platform if the slide is attached to it * If the starting section is over 400mm long, platform requirements apply * From a platform, the gap to the slide is the same width as the slide * Attachment slides over 1m free fall height should have starting section barriers 500mm min. high at one point * Attachment slides over 1m FFH should have a guard-rail across the entrance at a ht. of between 700-900mm
Sliding sections
* Maximum angle: 60° at any one point and an average of 40° * The width of open and straight slides over 1500mm long should be less than 700mm or greater than 950mm * Spiral or curved slides should have a width less than 700mm
RUN -OUTS
* Run-outs of at least 300mm are required if the sliding section is under 1.5m long. * Additional requirements are required for different types of slides * Average angle of run-outs: DIN type 10° (BS type) 5° (both downwards) * Height of run-out: Less than 1.5m sliding length: max. 200mm. Greater than 1.5m sliding length: max. 350mm * Users should come to a stop on the run-out section (BS type only)
* Chutes should have a side height related to the fall height: 1.2m: 100mm minimum : 1.2m - 2.5m: 150mm minimum : Over 2.5m: 500mm minimum
* Maximum side angle from slide bed: 30° * Tops of sides should be rounded or radiused to at least 3mm * Tunnel slides should be a minimum 750mm high and 750mm wide * Tunnels should start on or at the end of the starting section and be continuous over the sliding section only

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS
Normal distances except for the run-out which should be: * DIN type: 1m each side and 2m beyond (or just 1.5m beyond for short slides) * BS type: 1m each side and 1m beyond

CABLE RUNWAYS
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
* Stop at end should progressively slow down the traveller * Traveller should not be removable except with tools * No access to internal mechanism * Suspension mechanism: flexible, exclude risk of strangulation or be at least 2m above the ground in the middle * Where children hang by the hands, the grip should not be enclosed (i.e. a loop)
* Climbing should be discouraged onto the grip * Children should be able to get off the seat at any time (i.e. no loops or straps) * Maximum loaded (69.5kg) speed is 7m per second * If two cables are placed parallel the min. distance between them is 2m
IMPACT AREAS
* 2m either side of main cable

ROTATING ITEMS
The main changes are in clearer separation into different types. A change in the clearance between the underside and the ground will affect older items. The change should provide greater safety. NOTE: Rotating items under 500mm diameter are excluded from these requirements
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS
* Maximum free height of fall: 1000mm (For overhead items: 1500 - 3000mm) * Max. speed at periphery under reasonable use: 5m per s econd. As no method is given, this cannot be tested * Hand grips should be between 16 - 45mm
SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS
There are specific requirements for different types of roundabout. The two most common ones are:
Platform roundabouts:

* Platforms should be circular and enclosed * All parts should revolve in the same direction * No super-structure over the edge of the platform * Mechanism should be enclosed * Height between underside and ground 60 – 110mm for 300mm in * Protective skirts should be of rigid material and have no burrs or other defects * The bottom edge should be flared towards the inside or protected
Giant revolving discs
* Clearance of underside at lowest point: 300mm * Max. platform height: 1m * Free space: 3m * Upper surface should be continuous, smooth and with no handles or grips * Underside should be continuous, smooth and without any radial variations (i.e. spokes) or indentations

MINIMUM SPACE

* Free space: Horizontal: 2m all round * Vertical head clearance from platform: sitting 1.5m ; standing 1.8m * Small rotating items under 500mm diameter are excluded but RoSPA suggests as for rocking items

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

* There are no special extra requirements for surfacing areas * Surfaces should be continuous underneath and level

ROCKING ITEMS

DEFINITIONS

* Rocking equipment which can be moved by the user and is supported from below
* Damping: any movement restricting device. (N.B. Springs are treated as self-damping)

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

* Throughout the range of movement gaps in all accessible joints should be under 12mm * Progressive restraint at extremity of movement is required * Foot rests should be provided where the ground clearance is less than 230mm * Hand grips should be provided for each seat or standing position
* Foot rests and hand grips should be firmly fixed and non-rotating * Hand grip diameter: 16 - 45mm (for toddler items: 30mm maximum) * Right -angled corners on moving equipment should be 20mm radius min. (e.g. a bird's beak)

MINIMUM SPACE

* 1000mm between items at maximum movement.

SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

There are no special extra requirements for surfacing areas

INSTALLATION, INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION

SAFETY

* Appropriate safety systems must be established by the operator * No access should be allowed to unsafe equipment or areas * Records should be kept by the playground operator * Effectiveness of safety measures should be assessed annually * Signs should be provided giving owner details and emergency service contact points * Entrances for emergency services should be freely accessible
* Information on accidents should be kept (RoSPA has a suitable form)
* Staff and users should be safe during maintenance operations

INSPECTION

* Manufacturers will recommend the inspection frequency although some sites may need a daily check

Frequency
Routine visual inspections: identification of hazards from vandalism, use or weather conditions (RoSPA recommends a recorded daily or weekly inspection) Operational inspection: every 1 -3 months or as recommended. Checks operation, stability, wear etc. Annual main inspection: checks long-term levels of safety

* An inspection schedule should be prepared for each playground, listing components and methods
* Appropriate action should be taken if defects are noted

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

* Basic routine maintenance details should be supplied by the manufacturer

CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE

* This covers remedial work and repairs as required * Alterations should only be carried out after consultation & agreement with the supplier or a competent person

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