

PLAY AREA SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

(ANNUAL INSPECTION)

For Bucklesham Parish Council

On 22nd October 2025

Play Area, Playing Field, Levington Lane, Bucklesham



An independent safety assessment of the playground and equipment by

David Bracey ILAM Dip.

David Bracey Play Safety Inspections

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About David Bracey – Independent Playground Inspector

David Bracey has been carrying out professional playground, leisure, and water inspections since 2004, successfully inspecting several thousand sites across the UK. With over thirty years of prior experience in Local Government — covering Parks, Playgrounds, Leisure, and Environmental Management — David brings a depth of expertise and practical knowledge to every inspection.

From 2004 to 2011, David worked as a Play Inspector for RoSPA before establishing his own independent inspection service. His company provides convenient, timely, and fully independent inspections, ensuring impartial reports and a balanced, sensible approach. With no ties to any manufacturer or installer, every inspection is guaranteed to be unbiased and solely focused on the safety of the facility.

David is qualified to the **RPII Annual Inspector Standard** — the highest level of certification in the field. He has also passed a **Criminal Disclosure Check** and holds full **Professional Indemnity** and **Public Liability Insurance**, giving clients complete peace of mind.

The following forms an integral part of the inspection report

Reading it may save you unnecessary expenditure

1. The equipment has been assessed, as relevant, in accordance with BS EN 1176: "Playground Equipment", BS EN 15312 (Sports Areas) and BS EN 14974 (Wheeled Sports) and BS EN 16630 (Outdoor Gym Equipment).

The BS EN1176 was published on 1 January 1999 when existing standards were withdrawn. There are a number of areas where existing equipment may fail the standard. **This does not mean that equipment has suddenly become dangerous or that remedial action is required. Generally equipment that fails BS EN 1176 but passed the previous standard BS 5696 at time of installation should be considered safe (excluding any maintenance issues).**

Where there is a compliance failure, this is briefly noted and a risk assessment made of the failure. **Where we believe action is required this is indicated in more detail and identified as a medium or high risk.** (See paragraph 13). Where no action is indicated, in our opinion there is no practical economic action that can be taken and the risks do not justify removal of the item.

Low risk items should be corrected if possible or monitored if it is recommended in the report and if accidents occur, remedial action will be required (There is no such thing as NO risk).

Standard compliance is not mandatory or retrospective.

2. The inspections cover:

Site safety

Suitability and conditions of ancillary items

Standard compliance, suitability and condition of equipment

Dimensional compliance, suitability and condition of surfacing

The report indicates the condition of the play area at the time of inspection. Subsequent events such as weather conditions, usage, or vandalism etc. may affect the condition of the play area. Routine inspections should be undertaken by the operator to monitor the effects of these.

3. Standard assessment is undertaken where appraisal may be made without dismantling or destruction.
4. The inspections are non-dismantling inspections. Where it is felt that removal of parts for assessment is required, this will be indicated. (See paragraph 13). It is not possible to check for internal corrosion/rot without dismantling the equipment.
5. Surfacing has been assessed solely in terms of the area covered and its condition or security.
6. Where there is open water within easy walking distance of the play area it is recommended that a water safety report be commissioned (David Bracey Play Safety Inspections can undertake this).
7. Where there are trees within falling distance of the play area it is recommended that a report on the integrity of the tree is obtained from a competent arboricultural expert (see www.trees.org.uk for list of qualified consultants). It is also recommended that arrangements should be in place to close the play area in times of high winds.
8. Where no protective surface is provided with items which have a fall height in excess of 600mm, the installation of a protective surface should be considered. Such surfacing is not mandatory but does represent good practice. It should be noted that BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177 allow well-maintained grass for fall heights of up to 1500mm.
9. Surfacing up to a fall height of 600mm does not require testing for impact absorbency.
10. In addition to inspecting the equipment and surfacing, the inspection also looked at ancillary items and general design features where relevant to safety.

11. Wear to shackle pins and bushes on swings is difficult to detect on non-dismantling inspections. Checks are made to identify excessive movement in the 'D' shackle and where dry bearings are obvious. Whilst this action can often identify serious defects it does not preclude the possibility of shackle pin failure in rare circumstances. It is recommended that random inspection by removal of the 'D' shackle and pin is carried out as a regular maintenance feature in the site owner's work programme.
12. It should be noted that this is a safety report, not a standard compliance report, and compliance/non compliance with EN1176 is normally indicated. However failures may not be mentioned where they are very minor, or of a technical nature, and have no noticeable effect on safety.
13. A risk assessment of faults and Standard failures is given in terms of low, medium and high. **As a general principal items marked as "low" usually only require monitoring, although remedial work can be carried out as part of the sites general maintenance programme. Items marked as "medium" require appropriate action within resources and individual site assessment. Items marked as "high" require urgent action.** In rare cases where an item is likely to result in major injury or death, the operator or appropriate representative will be notified from the site by telephone. This will be indicated on the report.
14. There can be problems with assessing ground decay where synthetic surfaces have been installed. Similar problems may occur with sub-surface degradation. While care is taken to check ground decay and corrosion in supports, this cannot be done fully without removal and destruction of the surface.
15. In order to provide economic reports, standard wording is used for most common standard/maintenance failures. The inspector also works using previous year's reports (where available).
This may mean that where there have been few changes to the site, the current report may be similar to the previous year's report.
16. The Equality Act 2010 (which superseded the Disability Discrimination Act) applies to play areas. There is a duty, where practicable, to make reasonable provision for equal opportunities

for disabled people. David Bracey Play Safety Inspections can advise on this, and can undertake a Equality Act Assessment of play areas.

17. The Management of Health and Safety Regulations require a risk assessment of the play area for risks to users. This is a highly specialised subject. A risk assessment is included in the report, although it is normally recommended that such formal risk assessments be undertaken every 4-5 years.



The Register of Play Inspectors International (RPII) is the official UK body for accrediting and certifying play inspectors.

Inspection Scope for RPII Annual Inspectors

PLEASE READ ALL OF THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This document outlines the RPII scope for inspections undertaken by the Inspectors listed as Annual Inspectors on the RPII Register of Inspectors when undertaking Indoor Annual, Outdoor Annual, Outdoor Operational and Outdoor Routine inspections.

Inspections are undertaken with reference to the standards listed in this preamble only; where no date for the standard is given it will be the standard that is current at the time of inspection except where overlap periods are granted by the standards committee when standards are updated. The information contained in reports is provided to assist the owner/operator in fulfilling their responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standard. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of the inspection, unless they are also explicitly listed here.

The following standards are relevant to all installations of equipment that are publicly accessible to users; this includes public parks, pay and play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks etc. All equipment used or employed in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant standards (listed below):

BS EN 1176 Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 & 11 Playground equipment intended for permanent installation outdoors & indoors.

BS EN 1176 Part 7 - 'Guidance on Installation, Inspection, Maintenance and Operation' (this document gives guidance to the owners/operators of the facility on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of playground equipment, excluding ancillary items).

In the United Kingdom the National Foreword forms an important part to the understanding and implementation of the recommendations set out in this document. It clarifies the application of the document within the UK as best practice guidance, as the document has been used since its initial publication. Therefore, in the UK this standard (BS EN 1176 – Part 7) contains no requirements and needs to be read and implemented as guidance, with the use of the term 'shall' therefore becoming a recommendation, as in the term 'should'.

Domestic play equipment falls outside of the scope of BS EN 1176 and has its own standards (BS EN 71 series – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report but any comments concerning compliance will follow the requirements and recommendations of BS EN 1176.

When water play items, including spray parks, are inspected any comments concerning compliance within the inspection will refer to EN 1176. We have not assessed these against the requirements of EN 17232 (Water play equipment and features).

Other equipment that is not clearly identified as unsupervised or domestic (natural play, self-build equipment etc.) will be assessed for compliance with the relevant standard listed below:

BS EN 15312 Free access multi-sports equipment
BS EN 14974 Skateparks
BS EN 16630 Permanently installed outdoor fitness equipment
BS EN 16899 Parkour equipment (plus RPII/API guidance notes)

Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with these 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 (that area which is obviously part of the playground),

nominally up to three metres around, the fence line if closer, or other areas as agreed.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to cleanliness, equipment ground clearances, ground surface finishes, exposed foundations, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear (of moving parts) structural integrity, wear and vandalism.

Routine visual inspections relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, litter, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).

All inspections are non-dismantling, non-destructive and do not include 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 reasonably accessible equipment and will assess all reasonably accessible parts 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. (Note: Ancillary items are not included in the specific equipment-type parts of the EN 1176 series; hence they are not assessed for compliance with EN 1176 series and are subject to a general safety assessment).

The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area.

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 the impact attenuating properties of any surfaces; the identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection; the

inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is beneath the playing surface (loose-fill materials may be moved to expose foundations); 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); where planting or trees are mentioned in the report no assessments of toxicity, suitability or condition are undertaken – the owner/operator should have suitable inspections provided by a competent person.

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.

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. This inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator’s discharge of this responsibility.

The details contained within the report are a snapshot of the condition at the time of inspection only and subsequent events may affect the condition of the facility. Suggested remedial actions are based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector and/or that of the inspection company. The owner/operator should always seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

Table 1

The 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 facilities. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in an RPII Annual or Post-Installation Inspection. The relevant standards also contain additional parts which the operator should follow.

Inspection Recommendations of relevant standards Refer to relevant standards for full text	Annual Main	RPII Annual/ Post Installation Inspection
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of equipment (see note 1)	✓ [1]	✓
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 1)	✓	✓[1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of playing surfaces (see note 2)	✓	✓[2]
6.1 d) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard and or risk assessment (see note 3)	✓	✓[3]
6.1 d) Effects of weather	✓	✓
6.1 d) Presence of rot, decay or corrosion (see note 1)	✓	✓[1]
6.1 d) Assessment of repairs made or added or replaced components (see note 4)	✓	✓[4]
6.1 d) Excavation or dismantling/additional measures	✓	✗
6.2.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 5)	✓	✓[5]
6.2.1 Inspection of one post equipment (see note 1)	✓ [1]	✓[1]
6.2.4 Undertaking the Operators inspection protocol	✓	✗

NB: The clause numbers in table 1 are taken from BS EN 1176 - Part 7:2020. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards listed herein. 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

[1] 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 or with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment.

[2] 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 RPII annual inspections.

[3] 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.

[4] 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.

[5] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs or replacement.

Weather at time of inspection

Weather conditions are recorded to assess immediate safety risks, note environmental impact on play equipment/surfaces, and provide context for inspection findings.

1. Surface Safety

- Wet, icy, or snowy surfaces increase slip and fall risks.
- Loose-fill surfacing (woodchips, sand, rubber mulch) can be compacted or displaced by rain or wind.

2. Equipment Temperature

- Metal or plastic equipment can become dangerously hot in strong sun.
- Freezing conditions can make equipment brittle and prone to cracking.

3. Visibility & Supervision

- Fog, rain, or low light reduces visibility, affecting supervision safety.

Maintenance & Condition of Equipment

1. Weather Related Wear

- Rain and moisture accelerate rusting, rot, and corrosion.
- Strong winds or storms may loosen fixings or damage shade structures.

2. Inspection Accuracy

- Wet or frosty conditions may temporarily hide cracks, splinters, or sharp edges.
- Certain issues (like drainage problems) are only visible in wet weather.

Reporting & Documentation

1. Context for Findings

- Notes explain why certain hazards were or weren't visible.
- Weather helps justify temporary closures (e.g., playground taped off after a storm).

2. Patterns & Long - Term Records

- Tracking weather at inspection helps identify recurring issues (e.g., puddling after rain, slippery moss growth, or season).

Maintenance

Maintenance for play areas is crucial for ensuring the safety and well-being of children, meeting legal and ethical obligations, protecting investment in equipment, and promoting social and community benefits. Regular inspections and upkeep prevent accidents and maintain a welcoming, hygienic environment.

Safety and legal compliance

Ensuring the safety of playgrounds is the primary reason for regular maintenance in the UK.

- **Reduces injuries:** Regular checks identify and fix hazards before they cause harm. Issues like broken equipment, loose bolts, worn ropes, and uneven surfaces can lead to injuries, from minor scrapes to broken bones.
- **Protects against liability:** Although UK law does not mandate a specific inspection regime, playground operators, such as local councils and schools, have a legal duty of care to provide a safe environment. Following maintenance guidelines and keeping detailed records is vital to prove due diligence in the event of an accident.
- **Adheres to safety standards:** While not legally required, adherence to British and European Standards (BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177) is strongly recommended as good practice for safety. These standards cover equipment and safety surfacing and are checked during professional annual inspections.

Economic advantages

Regular maintenance is a cost-effective strategy that protects a significant financial investment.

- **Prolongs equipment lifespan:** Proactive maintenance prevents small problems, such as wear and tear or minor damage, from escalating into major, expensive issues. This extends the usable life of the equipment and delays costly replacements.
- **Saves money on repairs:** By catching and addressing issues early, managers avoid the larger costs associated with extensive

repairs or full equipment replacement that result from long-term neglect.

- **Reduces waste:** Extending the life of equipment is also a sustainable practice that reduces unnecessary waste.

Social and community benefits

Well-maintained play areas offer a range of social benefits that support both children and the wider community.

- **Encourages physical activity:** A clean, safe, and functional playground is more inviting, encouraging children to play outdoors. This helps combat sedentary lifestyles and obesity while developing physical skills.
- **Promotes mental and social development:** Playgrounds are hubs for social interaction where children learn to cooperate, share, and solve problems. A high-quality play environment supports healthy brain development, stress relief, and builds resilience.
- **Fosters community trust:** A well-cared-for playground demonstrates to parents, carers, and residents that their local council or school is committed to community well-being. A rundown or unsafe play area can erode public trust and result in fewer people using the facility.
- **Creates a welcoming environment:** A tidy, functional, and visually appealing play area, free from litter and vandalism, makes the space more enjoyable for everyone and promotes a sense of community pride.

Name of site: Play Area, Playing Field, Levington Lane, Bucklesham
Owner: Bucklesham Parish Council
Date: 22nd October 2025
Inspector: David Bracey
Weather: Dry with Sun
Time: PM

Site Comments

Annual inspection at a very well equipped play area in a rural location. The playground is in good condition and appears to be well maintained. Maintenance is required as noted in report.

Timber Play Equipment (RpII information)

With much concern, it has been noticed recently by RpII inspectors, that timber play equipment in the UK, is increasingly suffering from fungal and rot attack possibly due to environmental changes such as mild and wet weather conditions (during Winter).

Inspectors and clients have seen timber posts snap off, where no external rot has been detected visually or by resonance testing. This is a worrying situation.

It is therefore advised that all clients check all wooden play equipment regularly other than the Annual Inspection. Apart from probing with a thin blade, to see if water egress is found or softness in the timber, a forceful push on the timber may be needed to test the soundness of the item. With much concern, it has been noticed recently by RpII inspectors, that timber play equipment in the UK, is increasingly suffering from fungal and rot attack possibly due to environmental changes such as mild and wet weather conditions (during Winter).

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Timber deteriorates most when buried in, or in contact with, the ground. EN 1176 and good design of play equipment helps to extend equipment life, but without effective measures the lifespan of in-ground timbers can be limited.

Timber will not rot when its moisture content is below approximately 20% for most of the time. In the UK this applies to timber out of contact with the ground. However, junctions between components, holes for fastenings and horizontal parts from which water is not easily shed can be at risk as they will maintain a higher than average moisture content. Design to reduce these problems is therefore important. Water is also much more likely to get into wood through the end grain. Exposed areas of end grain should be protected wherever possible. On verticals use top covers, or sloping surfaces to shed water.

Cracking in timber

Wood is a natural material and cracking is natural. Normally these will have no appreciable effect on the strength of the material. They should not exceed 10mm wide (in which case they can be a "finger trap" as defined by EN 1176) or are places where water can remain and soak into the wood. Cracks normally appear due to a differential rate of drying out of wet wood. If wood which has a similar moisture content to the natural surrounding is used, cracking is greatly reduced. The preservative treatment greatly increases the moisture level in the wood. In order to ensure that the preservative penetrates into drilled holes etc., many manufacturers will wait until they receive an order before making up finished equipment.

They can then treat all exposed areas. However this means that the outside of the wood has high moisture content. If this can be allowed to dry out slowly in more controlled conditions, often taking up to three months, the end result will be a greatly reduced incidence of cracking. Discuss this with your supplier. Patience in waiting for installation, or ordering at the right time (so installation takes place between October and March when equipment is unlikely to be subject to rapid drying) can make an amazing difference. Equipment which is installed only a few days after pressure treatment and in hot summer conditions will invariably split and crack badly.

Wood based sheet materials

Often equipment includes panels etc. made from plywood or similar

laminates. Marine plywood or pressure treated plywood to BS EN 636, part 3 should be used. The edges of plywood are vulnerable to wetting and edges should be treated with an appropriate edge sealant.

Metal fixings

Some form of metal fixing is common on play equipment. This is normally in the form of bolts and screws (nails are not recommended). Preservative may accelerate any metal corrosion resulting from exposed wet metal and thus the use of either hot dipped galvanised, or stainless steel fastenings are recommended. Where nails are used (perhaps on floor boards) annular or other improved shank nails are essential to prevent them working loose or being pulled free. Ordinary nails are not acceptable.

Wet and dry rot

Dry rot is a misnomer. It requires moisture, although at very specific levels (between 20 and 25%). These levels are common in play equipment and dry rot can be a problem. Wet rot, as its name implies also needs moisture and is most likely around ground contact points and joints (or in cracks).

They are prevented by preservative, so it is untreated areas of wood, or ground contact points which are at risk. It can remain invisible until late in its development. It is quite possible to find a beam whose exterior (treated wood) is intact, but whose middle (untreated) is rotten. Often the first that anyone knows about the rot is when the wood breaks, with possible dangerous consequences.

It is essential to inspect the wood regularly. Unsoundness can often be detected by the hollow sound made when the area is tapped (a rubber mallet is good for this). Use a sharp pointed instrument (say a fine bladed electrician's screwdriver) to probe the wood. If decay is thought possible, prise up small splinters with a knife. If they break off with a brittle fracture, it is likely that decay is present. Replace infected members.

Site and Ancillary Items

The following items have been inspected and found to be in good order:

Access

Cleanliness

Minimum Space - equipment

Traffic Clashes – users

Site well overlooked by housing

General Surface – Grass

Planting

Recycled Plastic Picnic Benches x 8







Signs – CCTV, Supervision and Ownership etc. (on Notice Board), Other information.





Metal Bow-top Fencing (1250mm)



Main Access Gates – Locks in place



Litter Bins x 2



Pedestrian Gate



Recycled Plastic Seats x 5





Pedestrian Gateways with Paving



Timber Shelter



Work is required on the following:

N/A

PLAY EQUIPMENT:

Item: Table Tennis x 2



EN 14469 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN14469 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend monitor small area of damage to edge of table - Low risk.



Surfacing: Grass

EN 14469 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 14469.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Goal Combo - Agoraspaces



Signs x 3





EN 15312 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN15312 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend replace missing side netting if finances allow - Low risk.



Surfacing: Grass

EN 15312 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 15312.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Mobile Football Goals x 2 - MHG



EN16579/748 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN16579/748 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend secure loose back bar fixings and top bar to one goal (which leans) – Medium risk.





Recommend clean off algae - Low risk.

Surfacing: Grass

EN 16579/748 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 16579/748.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Sign in place conforms to EN16630.



Item: Double Slalom Skier – Sunshine Gym/Broxap





EN 16630 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN16630 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 16630 Compliance

The item fails to meet the requirements of EN16630 in the following respects:

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Double Health Walker – Sunshine Gym/Broxap



EN 16630 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN16630 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 16630 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 18830.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Arm and Leg Warm Up – Sunshine Gym/Broxap



EN 16630 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN16630 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 16630 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 15530.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Leg Raise – Sunshine Gym/Broxap



EN 16630 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN16630 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 16630 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 16630.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

OPEN PLAY AREA

Trim Trail comprising 9 Challenges

Item: Intertwine with 4 Step Posts - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Overhead Slider Traverse - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend replace missing cap – Low risk.



Surfacing: Matting

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Traverse Wall with 7 Step Posts - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend to clean off algae from foot and hand holds – may be slippery when wet and transfer to clothes of users – Low risk.





Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Rocking Log with 4 Step Posts - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Log is static – Recommend repair to allow movement. Item can remain to be used as a static item and no hazard exists.

Recommend monitor cracks to timbers, smooth down any splinters when found, and ensure the cracks do not cross through fixing points of the structure and/or cause any instability. Replace any timber when 8mm and more gaps are found if in an area where a user grasps and climbs. (8mm and above fail the EN1176 finger entrapment probe when in an area that children grasp and climb.) Cracks let in water which may lead to rotting of timber (currently up to 3mm diameter cracks are found). Refer to manufacturers guarantee in regard to replacement criteria - Low risk.



Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Logs and Chains Traverse - Playdale

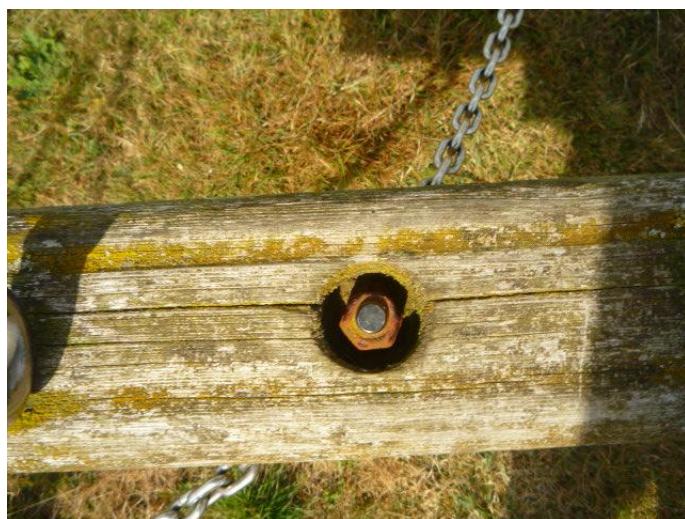


EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend replace missing plastic bolt cover cap or infill (with wood filler) – Low risk.



Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Beams and Chains Balance with 8 Step Logs - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend monitor cracks to timbers, smooth down any splinters when found, and ensure the cracks do not cross through fixing points of the structure and/or cause any instability. Replace any timber when 8mm and more gaps are found if in an area where a user grasps and climbs. (8mm and above fail the EN1176 finger entrapment probe when in an area that children grasp and climb.) Cracks let in water which may lead to rotting of timber (currently up to 3mm diameter cracks are found). Refer to manufacturers guarantee in regard to replacement criteria - Low risk.

Slight rotting found on one beam – Recommend Monitor – Low risk.



Recommend clean off algae on beams which may be slippery when wet
- Low risk.



Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Stilts - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend remove remains of post – replace post as distance between existing posts are too far – Low to Medium risk.



Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Springy Plank with 8 Step Logs - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Slatted Bridge - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend monitor cracks to timbers, smooth down any splinters when found, and ensure the cracks do not cross through fixing points of the structure and/or cause any instability. Replace any timber when 8mm and more gaps are found if in an area where a user grasps and climbs. (8mm and above fail the EN1176 finger entrapment probe when in an area that children grasp and climb.) Cracks let in water which may lead to rotting of timber (currently up to 3mm diameter cracks are found). Refer to manufacturers guarantee in regard to replacement criteria - Low risk.



Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: 1 Bay 2 Flat Seat Swing (2600mm) - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend replace damaged/rotten support – Medium risk.



Surfacing: Wet Pour

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: 1 Bay 1 Cradle Seat Swing (1800mm) - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Little Hamlets Multiplay - Playdale

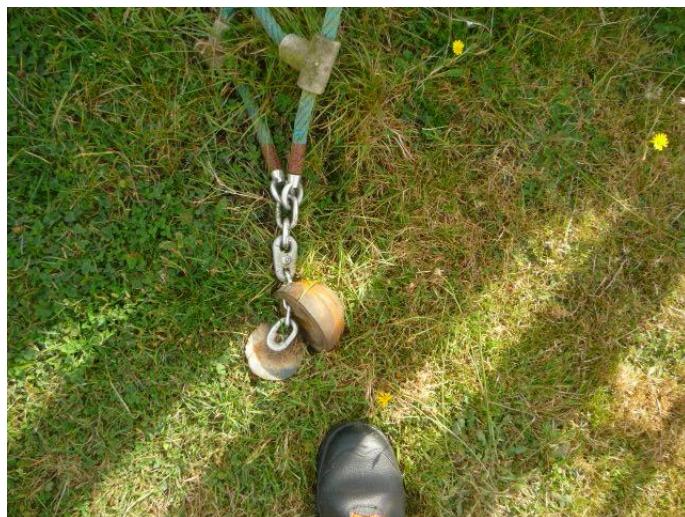


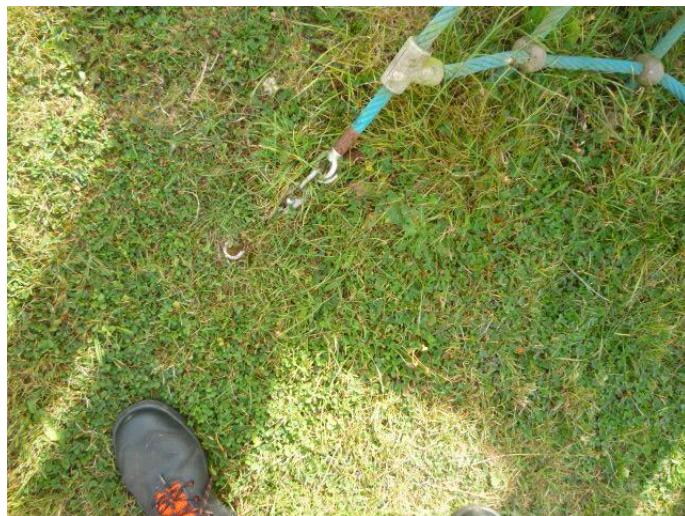
EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend monitor missing plastic cover and secure other loose cover
- Low risk.





Recommend to clean off algae from item – may be slippery when wet and transfer to clothes of users – Low risk.



Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Basket Swing - NGF



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Type 2b Rocker – Group Springy Seesaw - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Type 2a Rocker – Motorbike Springy - Ledon



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Type 2a Rocker – Elephant Springy - Ledon



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Playhouse Climber - Ledon



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend remove grass etc – Low risk.



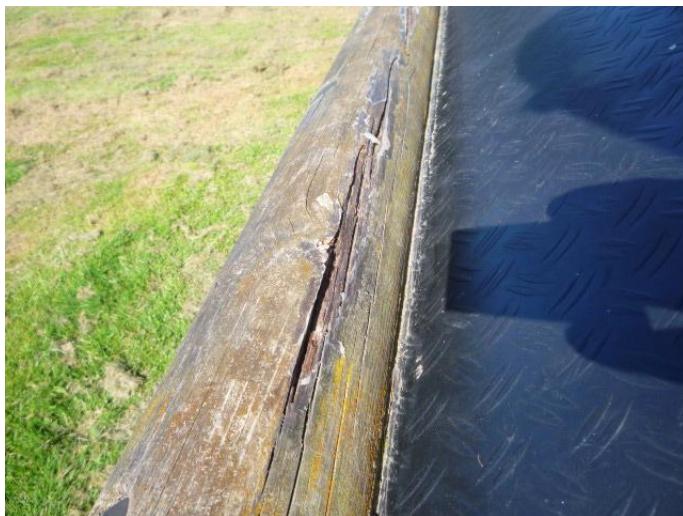
Recommend monitor cracks to timbers, smooth down any splinters when found, and ensure the cracks do not cross through fixing points of the structure and/or cause any instability. Replace any timber when 8mm and more gaps are found if in an area where a user grasps and climbs. (8mm and above fail the EN1176 finger entrapment probe when in an area that children grasp and climb.) Cracks let in water which may lead

to rotting of timber (currently up to 3mm diameter cracks are found). Refer to manufacturers guarantee in regard to replacement criteria - Low risk.



Rot is found in two beams – Recommend monitor and budget for replacement in the future - Low risk.





Recommend smooth down/infill splintered area – Low risk.



N.B. Considering the unknown age of the timbers, although no major visible rot was found above the surface level it is recommended that an underground inspection is carried out of the supports and if rot is found under the ground that this item is replaced.

Surfacing: Matting

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to

manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Rock N Roll Multiplay - Playdale



EN 1176 Compliance

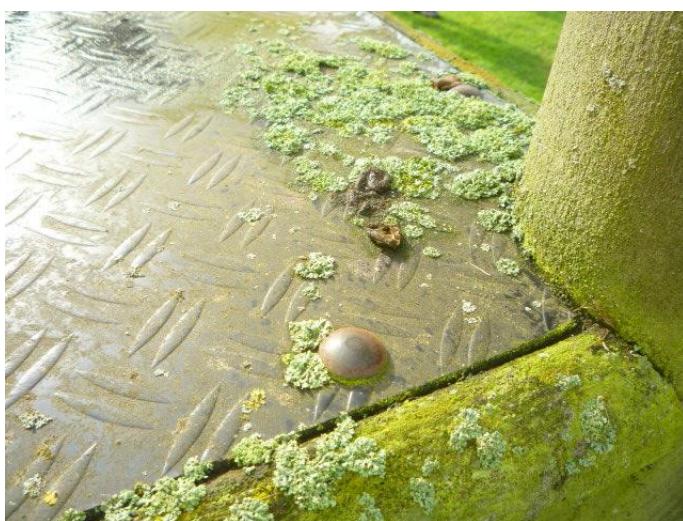
The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend replace missing covers x 2 at net fixings, or cover fixings with turf to eliminate falling and tripping hazards - Low risk.



Recommend to clean off algae from item – may be slippery when wet and transfer to clothes of users – Low risk.



Surfacing: Matting

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: 'Monkey Challenge' - Finding Fitness Ltd



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Inclusive Roundabout - Unknown



EN 1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Wet Pour

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Name of site: 'Bike Jumps', PF, Levington Lane, Bucklesham
Client: Bucklesham PC
Date: 22nd October 2025
Inspector: David Bracey



Site Comments

The BMX 'Dirt' track was constructed by James Perks of Twisted Oaks at Bucklesham. The design is very good with a wide track and ramps that suits the beginner and experienced rider alike and is not over challenging.

The equipment has been assessed to the BMX (British Moto Cross)/Rospa guidelines laid out in the 'BMX Safety and Planning Guide; 2005'. No current BS/EN Standard exists covering BMX.

Site and Ancillary Items

The following items have been inspected and found to be in good order:

Access – via Playing Field

Access for Emergency vehicles.

Cleanliness

No Traffic Clashes – users.

Site is visible from adjacent playing field and car park.

Safe provision for spectators – good area for off track circulation.

Fencing not required.

Sign



Work is required on the following:

Recommend Seating facing the track with a Litter Bin.

Track and Surrounds

The following have been inspected and found in good order:

Edge of track - Well defined by flat grass areas

Inner and Outer margins of track - Good

Circulation space – Good

Ramps distance from Hedge – 3000mm - Good

Additional Comments

It is not considered essential to fence the BMX area from the rest of the field, as sufficient circulation space is achieved.

Track Report

The track has several small nursery jumps and some larger jumps. The two berms/corners are also in good condition and are well placed in relation to the course, and need no further work. It is advised to repair the track if any ruts and holes appear, the digging of holes to act as obstacles should be discouraged and the track should be inspected and monitored at least weekly.

Track and Obstacle Report

Item 1 - High (2000mm high) Start - Flat Top Jump – Good



Item 2 - Flat Top Jump (1100mm high) – Good



Item 3 – Flat Top Jump (1100mm high) – Good



Item 4 – Large Berm and Nursery Berm - Good



Item 5 – Nursery Low jumps (500mm high) x 3 - Good



Risk Assessment Evaluation

Client: Bucklesham Parish Council

Site: Play Area, Playing Field, Levington Lane, Bucklesham

Date: 22nd October 2025

Type: Toddler/Junior/Adult/Sport

Risk Assessment

The risk of a play area is not limited to the equipment. The ancillary items and immediate surroundings and approach routes may have more significant risks than the equipment itself.

The overall risk for the site will be the highest risk identified in the report.

The risk assessment process is an established one for playground inspectors and recommended by RoSPA.

There are two main criteria used in calculating a risk score. These are the likelihood of injury and the severity of injury. These are each scored between 1 and 5 with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest. Scores are not necessarily whole numbers. A score of, say 3.6, may be applied to a particular likelihood.

The likelihood of injury looks at the likelihood of an injury occurring and some allowance has to be made for the usage made of certain types of equipment.

A score of 1 represents little likelihood

A score of 1-2 represents fairly low likelihood

A score of 2-3 represents low to medium likelihood

A score of 3-4 represents medium to high likelihood

A score of 4-5 represents very high likelihood

The likely severity looks at the type and seriousness of the likely injury.

A score of 1 represents little or no injury

A score of 1-2 represents injury possible requiring minor medical attention

A score of 2-3 represents more significant injury (time off school or work)

A score of 3-4 represents serious injury with long term consequences

A score of 4-5 represents death or major disability

The risk score is calculated by multiplying the likelihood of an accident by the severity. The minimum score possible is 1 and the maximum 25.

In general the risks are scored as follows:

Risk Score	Risk Categories
1 -3	Very Low Risk - Monitor
4 -7	Low Risk – Monitor and take reasonable action if possible
8 - 12	Medium Risk – Take action to reduce if possible, or available
13 - 20	High Risk – Take Action immediately and access control measures
21 +	Unacceptable Risk – Remove or immobilise before taking immediate action and assessment of control measures

Ancillary Items and Environmental or Other Hazards

Ancillary Items	Risk Score	Comments	Action or Control
Access	3		Monitor
Recycled Plastic Seats	3		Monitor
Recycled Plastic Picnic Benches	3		Monitor
Maintenance Gate	3		Monitor
Pedestrian Gate	3		Monitor
Bowtop Fence	3		Monitor
Litter Bins	3		Monitor
Signs	3		Monitor
General Surface - Grass	3		Monitor
Planting	2		Monitor
Cleanliness	3		Monitor
Timber Shelter	3		Monitor

Environmental Hazards	Risk Score	Action, Comment or Control Recommended
Free/Fall Space	2	Monitor
Traffic Clashes	2	Monitor
Design Defects	2	Monitor

Equipment and Surfacing

Equipment Items	Surface	Risk Score	Action, Control or Comments
Table Tennis	Grass	4	See Report
Goal Combo	Grass	4	See Report
Mobile Football Goals	Grass	8	See Report
Double Slalom Skier	Matting	4	Monitor
Double Health Walker	Matting	4	Monitor
Arm and Leg Warmer	Matting	4	Monitor
Leg Raise	Matting	4	Monitor
Flat Seat Swing	Matting	6	See Report
Intertwine with Step Posts	Grass	3	Monitor
Overhead Slider	Matting	5	See Report
Traverse Wall with Step Posts	Grass	3	Monitor
Rocking Log with Step Posts	Grass	3	See Report
Logs and Chain Traverse	Grass	4	Monitor
Beams and Chains Traverse	Grass	4	Monitor
Stilts with Step Posts	Grass	6	See Report
Springy Plank with Step Logs	Grass	4	Monitor
Slatted Bridge	Matting	5	See Report

Cradle Swing	Matting	3	Monitor
Flat Seat Swing	Matting	6	See Report
Little Hamlets	Grass	6	See Report
Basket Swing	Matting	5	Monitor
Group Springy Seesaw	Matting	3	Monitor
Springy Motorbike	Matting	3	Monitor
Springy Elephant	Matting	3	Monitor
Playhouse Climber	Grass	6	See Report
Rock n Roll	Matting	7	See Report
Monkey Challenge	Grass	4	Monitor
Inclusive Roundabout	Wet Pour	3	Monitor
BMX Jumps	Soil	6	Monitor

Risk assessment evaluation should be read in conjunction with Annual or Post Installation reports. Where action or control relates to maintenance, non-compliance or minor defects read Annual Inspection or Post Installation reports for detailed comments. Serious or high risk failures should, however, be noted. Failure to comply with the standards will be identified in the reports.

Design, location and physical site factors may determine the overall risk of the site. These may be difficult to change economically, However, where maintenance or control methods are undertaken the site could be reduced to **LOW** Risk subject to a future inspection and reassessment.

ASSESSED LEVEL OF RISK FOR THE PLAYGROUND AT THE TIME OF INSPECTION WAS MEDIUM RISK