

Annual RoSPA Reports for Play Areas: Risks and Recommendations

October 2024

Play Area: Chestnut Drive

Issue	Risk Level Low/Medium/High	Recommendations	Action
Gate is sticking on the ground when open	Very Low - 3	Adjust	No further action

Play Area: Jubilee Field

Issue	Risk Level Low/Medium/High	Recommendations	Action
Gate - There is a crushing or shearing point on the side of the gate. Where the gaps reduce to less than 12 mm these have been known to cause serious, permanent injury to children, especially on the hinge side where the leverage forces are significant.	Low - 4	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	Clerk to ask Handyman to look at and quote
Timber Agility Trail – exposed metal rope core	Very low - 2	Repair	No further action - monitor
Basketball Post – a clearly visible sign must be fitted to all sports related equipment with at least the following: a) equipment is not intended for children less than 36 month, b)“Do not climb on the framework or nets”, c) “Do not hang on the ring”, d) “Do not wear rings or other jewellery as these can get caught and cause injury”, e) name and telephone number of site owner, f) number to call in case of accident.	Low - 6	Fit warning notice	Raised on previous occasions – Council decided to take no further action

Carousel – gaps exceeding the permitted 8mm	Medium - 8	Modify to meet the standards – refer to the manufacturer for comment	Installed Sept 2020, 2-year guarantee, now out. Raised last year - Cllr Grantham confirms that gap has been there since fitted. No Further Action at this time – Monitor
Monkey Pegs Climber - RoSPA is concerned by accidents on some types of overhead ladders and rings. However, there is a strong development value in these items	Low - 7	The protective surface under all bars and rings must be kept in good condition.	No further action - monitor
Senior Goal Posts – worn ground areas	Low - 7	Make good	Make good Spring 2025 – Ask new Handyman to quote
Senior Goal Posts – paintwork in poor condition	Low - 5	De-scale back to good base material and coat with lead free paint, using appropriate precautions. Repairs may be necessary where corrosion is severe.	Repair and paint Spring 2025 – Ask new Handyman to quote
Multiplay – paint is chipped (fireman's pole)	Low - 4	Touch up paint	No further action - monitor
Rocker/Seesaw/Multipondo – tyres damaged with metal wire exposed	Low - 4	Replace	No further action - item being replaced, including removal of tyres – installation early January
Slide – cap missing	Very Low - 2	Replace	No further action
Junior Swings, 2 bay, 4 seats – some chain wear	Low - 4	Monitor for further deterioration and replace before 40% wear	Monitor
Toddler Swings, 1 bay, 2 seats – some chain wear	Low - 7	Monitor for further deterioration and replace before 40% wear	Monitor

Play Area: Mallow Court

Issue	Risk Level Low/Medium/High	Recommendations	Action
Multiplay – taped over support	Very Low - 3	Monitor	Monitor
Surface – shrinkage/separation. May cause trip hazard	Very Low - 3	Re-glue and fill gaps and joints as necessary	No further action at present - monitor
Surface – moss present	Very Low - 3	Remove	No further action at present - monitor

Play Area: Orchard Way

Issue	Risk Level Low/Medium/High	Recommendations	Action
Agility Ladder – RoSPA is concerned by accidents on some types of overhead ladders and rings. However, there is a strong development value in these items	Low - 7	The protective surface under all bars and rings must be kept in good condition	No further action – item being replaced. Install scheduled early January
Agility Ladder – Paintwork in poor condition	Low - 4	De-scale back to good base material and coat with lead free paint, using appropriate precautions. Repairs may be necessary where corrosion is severe.	No further action – item being replaced. Install scheduled early January
Agility Ladder – Surface is cracking	Low 7	Repair	No further action – item being replaced. Install scheduled early January
Agility Ladder – head entrapment	Low - 6	No reasonably practicable action is identified	No further action – item being replaced. Install scheduled early January
Swings – paintwork in poor condition	Very Low - 3	De-scale back to good base material and coat with lead free paint, using appropriate precautions. Repairs may be necessary where corrosion is severe	No further action at present - monitor

Goal Posts – fixtures loose or missing	Low - 6	Tighten	Clerk to instruct Handyman to tighten
Goal Posts – paintwork in poor condition	Low – 6	De-scale back to good base material and coat with lead free paint, using appropriate precautions. Repairs may be necessary where corrosion is severe	Repair and paint Spring 2025 – Ask new Handyman to quote

Play Area: South View

Issue	Risk Level Low/Medium/High	Recommendations	Action
Fencing loose in ground – post next to swings	Very Low - 3	Monitor	Monitor
Mushrooms on grass	Medium - 8	Remove mushrooms and spray area with appropriate fungicide	Clerk to instruct Handyman to remove and spray
Surface – shrinkage/separation. May cause trip hazard	Very Low - 3	Re-glue and fill gaps and joints as necessary	No further action at present - monitor

Play Area: Worcester Crescent

Issue	Low/Medium/High	Recommendations	Action
Gate - There is a crushing or shearing point on the side of the gate. Where the gaps reduce to less than 12 mm these have been known to cause serious, permanent injury to children, especially on the hinge side where the leverage forces are significant.	Low - 4	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	Clerk to ask Handyman to look at and quote
Bin has corrosion	Very low - 3	Replace	No further action at present - monitor

Multiplay – algae growth on surface giving slippery conditions	Low - 6	Powerwashing is recommended. Care should be taken to ensure that the material can sustain high pressure washing	Clerk to ask Handyman to look at and quote.
Multiplay – the unit does not meet current requirements of standards – entrapment potential and no slide bar	Low - 4	No reasonable action identified	No further action
Seesaw - algae growth on surface giving slippery conditions	Low - 6	Powerwashing is recommended. Care should be taken to ensure that the material can sustain high pressure washing	Clerk to ask Handyman to look at and quote.