

the play inspection company

Annual Inspection

Mid Suffolk District Council

Thurston Playing Field

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Inspection Scope for RPII Inspection Methodology

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 BS EN 176. We have not assessed these against the requirements of BS 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.

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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)	~	V [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]
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 standards.

- [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.

Risk Assessment Matrix

			Scores in the report are multiplication factors of Likelihood x Severity						
			Severity>>						
Likelihood	Very High probability, if the situation is not addressed an accident is almost certain.	5	Very High	VL (5)	L (10)	M (15)	H (20)	VH (25)	
	High probability an accident is probable without any added factor.	4	High	VL (4)	L (8)	M (12)	H (16)	H (20)	
	Moderate probability an incident is foreseeable.	3	Moderate	VL (3)	L (6)	L (9)	M (12)	M (15)	
	Some probability, requires a combination of factors to take place.	2	Low	VL (2)	VL (4)	L (6)	L (8)	L (10)	
	No significant probability; lightning strike, freak accident.	1	Very Low	VL (1)	VL (2)	VL (3)	VL (4)	VL (5)	
		•		Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High	
	THE PLAN			1	2	3	4	5	
	NA 9 th Co. The ECLION			No injury likely e.g. damaged or soiled clothing, minor bruising, grazes	Minor injury, laceration or bruising requiring first aid only	Injury requiring medical intervention e.g. cuts requiring stitches	Serious injury including concussions or fracture of long bones	Severe injury involving a potential life changing injury or fatality	
Se						Severity>>			

Note 1: The total risk scores included within our reports are a multipication factor of the calculated Likelihood and Severity of each finding. Both Likelihood and Severity are given a number between 1 - 5 as shown on the matrix above and these two numbers are then multiplied together to give the total risk score that is shown against defects on the report. Total risk scores can be divided in both directions, i.e. a total risk score of 12 could be a Likelihood (3) x Severity (4) or Likelihood (4) x Severity (3).

Note 2: When we inspect we only see a snapshot of the current condition of the equipment. It is the operators responsibility to ensure that there is a continuing level of maintenance to keep the equipment in good working order and the site fit for use.

Equipment has been assessed to the following standards where relevant:

BS EN 1176 Parts 1-11 (Playground equipment and surfacing)

BS EN 14974 (Facilities for users of roller sports equipment)

BS EN 15312 (Free access multi-sports equipment)

BS EN 16899 (Parkour Equipment)

BS EN 16630 (Outdoor Fitness Equipment).



Thurston Playing Field

Inspection Ref: 1915608 Site Ref: 16629

Inspected: 10-January-2023 - 09:26 by James Law

Risk Assessment: 8 Low Risk



Location:

The site is located in an area of public open space and is not directly overlooked by any properties in the local community.

Disabled Access:

Some accessible features; an area that presents difficulties to the majority of people with disabilities but in favourable circumstances and certainly in partnership can be accessed.





8 - Low Risk

Site General Item: Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Surface Type: N/A **Item Quantity:** 1 **Equipment Compliance:** N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A

Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

There are a number of molehills within the area and these may present unforeseen hazards for users - Remove moles by appropriate means, reinstate surfaces to level and maintain the area

4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Sign

Manufacturer: Owner/Operator **Surface Type:** N/A **Item Quantity:** 1

Equipment Compliance: N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A

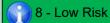
Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -





Item: Gate

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface Type: Grass **Item Quantity:** 1 **Equipment Compliance:** N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A

Total Findings: 2



Finding 1 Finding 2

or crush fingers - Where possible a 12mm gap should be maintained on both sides or between the gate leafs

There are openings that are less than 12mm that could trap

The area around the item has eroded and may become slippery - Reinstate eroded area

6 - Low Risk

Item: Gate - Maintenance Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface Type: Grass **Item Quantity:** 1 **Equipment Compliance:** N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A

Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

The adjacent foliage is overhanging the gate - Cut back and maintain





4 - Very Low Risk

Fence Item:

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface Type: Grass **Item Quantity:** 1 **Equipment Compliance:** N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A

Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -



4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Hedge

Manufacturer: Natural Feature

Surface Type: Grass **Item Quantity:** 1 **Equipment Compliance:** N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A

Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -





4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Bench

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface Type: N/A **Item Quantity:** 1 **Equipment Compliance:** N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A

Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -



4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Litter Bin Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface Type: Grass **Item Quantity:** 1 **Equipment Compliance:** N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A

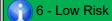
Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -





Item: 2 Bay (2 Flat, 2 Cradle)

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface Type: Wet Pour

Item Quantity: 1

Equipment Compliance: Yes **Surface Area Compliance:** No

Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years

Total Findings: 5

Finding 1

The surfacing dimensions are short and do not meet with the requirements of the current applicable standard -Monitor - no remedial action recommended

Finding 3

The bushes are showing signs of wear - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

Finding 5

The paintwork on this item has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting - Treat any rusting components and repaint



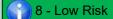
Finding 2

There are gaps opening between the surfacing and the edging surround or between the joints in the surfacing - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required

Finding 4

There are excessive chain tails - Cut back excessive chain links





Item: See Saw

Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds

Surface Type: Grass

Item Quantity: 1

Equipment Compliance: No

Surface Area Compliance: Yes

Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years

Total Findings: 3

Finding 1

The area around the item has eroded and may become

slippery - Reinstate eroded area



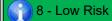
Finding 2

The item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.2 for head and neck entrapment in the framework - Monitor - No remedial work recommended

Finding 3

There is no gaiter protection for accessible moving parts (possible shear trap) as recommended in BS EN 1176 Part 1; 4.2.6 Moving Parts - Monitor - No remedial work recommended





Manufacturer:

Item: Multi Play (Junior)

Not Identified

Surface Type: Bark Mulch

Item Quantity: 1

Equipment Compliance: No

Surface Area Compliance: No

Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years

Total Findings: 9

Finding 1

There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing - Remove weed / vegetation growth

Finding 3

The item is slightly loose in its foundations - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required

Finding 5

The ropes/nets are worn/damaged in places - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair or replace as required

Finding 7

The grab rope has been removed - Replace the missing grab rope

Finding 9

The timber edge forms a hard object within the falling space of the equipment in contravention of the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 - Monitor - No remedial work recommended



Finding 2

There is/are several inserts missing - Replace missing inserts

Finding 4

There is/are finger entrapment/s due to missing insert and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.6 Entrapment of fingers - Replace missing inserts to remove entrapment

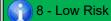
Finding 6

The inclined ramp edging strip is damaged - Replace the damaged edging strip

Finding 8

There is/are finger entrapment/s in the structure and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.6 Entrapment of fingers - Monitor - No remedial work recommended





Item: Basket Ball Goal

Manufacturer: Playquest

Surface Type: Grass

Item Quantity: 1

Equipment Compliance: Yes

Surface Area Compliance: N/A

Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years

Total Findings: 4

Finding 1

A support brace has been removed/not fitted - The frame is stable. Monitor and replace the brace if required

Finding 3

A clearly visible facility sign should be provided in a prominent position with the wording as detailed BS EN 15312- the equipment is not intended for children less than 3 years old- the warning - Do not climb on the framework or nets- the warning - Do not hang on the ring (if provided)- the warning - Do not wear rings or other jewellery- name and telephone number of the administrator- number to call in case of accident - Provide signage to BS EN 15312



Finding 2

The paintwork on this item has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting - Treat any rusting components and repaint

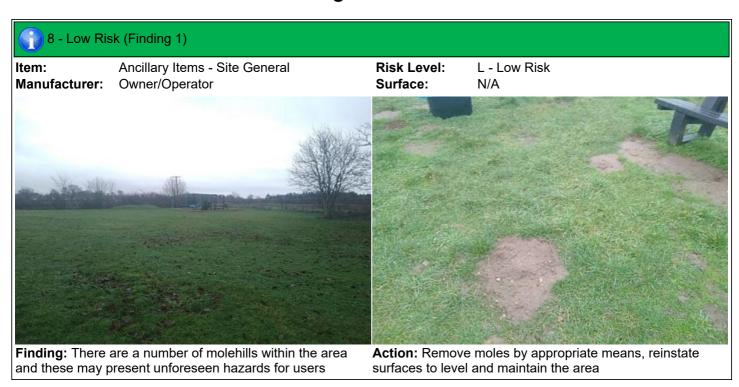
Finding 4

There are trip hazards at the edges of the surface -Reinstate surrounding surface levels to remove the trip points





Findings information









8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item:Gates - GateRisk Level:L - Low RiskManufacturer:Not IdentifiedSurface:Grass



Finding: There are openings that are less than 12mm that could trap or crush fingers



Action: Where possible a 12mm gap should be maintained on both sides or between the gate leafs

8 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item:Gates - GateRisk Level:L - Low RiskManufacturer:Not IdentifiedSurface:Grass



Finding: The area around the item has eroded and may become slippery



Action: Reinstate eroded area







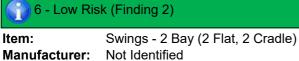














Risk Level: L - Low Risk Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: There are gaps opening between the surfacing and **Action:** Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as the edging surround or between the joints in the surfacing required

4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay (2 Flat, 2 Cradle)

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk Surface: Wet Pour



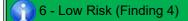
Finding: The bushes are showing signs of wear



Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required







Swings - 2 Bay (2 Flat, 2 Cradle) Item:

Not Identified Manufacturer:

Risk Level: L - Low Risk Surface: Wet Pour



Action: Cut back excessive chain links Finding: There are excessive chain tails

6 - Low Risk (Finding 5)

Swings - 2 Bay (2 Flat, 2 Cradle) Risk Level: Item: Surface:

Manufacturer: Not Identified



Finding: The paintwork on this item has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting



Action: Treat any rusting components and repaint

L - Low Risk

Wet Pour









become slippery

Item: Rocking Equipment - See Saw Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds

V - Very Low Risk Risk Level: Surface: Grass

Action: Reinstate eroded area



1176 Part 1 4.2.7.2 for head and neck entrapment in the

Finding: The item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended

framework







Item: Rocking Equipment - See Saw Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk

Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds Surface: Grass





Finding: There is no gaiter protection for accessible moving **Action:** Monitor - No remedial work recommended parts (possible shear trap) as recommended in BS EN 1176 Part 1; 4.2.6 Moving Parts

6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)





Finding: There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or **Action:** Remove weed / vegetation growth around the edges of the surfacing



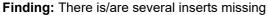




4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item:Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)Risk Level:V - Very Low RiskManufacturer:Not IdentifiedSurface:Bark Mulch







Action: Replace missing inserts

1

6 - Low Risk (Finding 3)



Finding: The item is slightly loose in its foundations



Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required



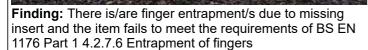




5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 4)

Item: Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)

Manufacturer: Not Identified



Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk Surface: Bark Mulch



Action: Replace missing inserts to remove entrapment

9

6 - Low Risk (Finding 5)



Finding: The ropes/nets are worn/damaged in places



Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair or replace as required

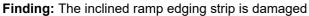






Item:Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)Risk Level:L - Low RiskManufacturer:Not IdentifiedSurface:Bark Mulch







Action: Replace the damaged edging strip

8 - Low Risk (Finding 7)



Finding: The grab rope has been removed



Action: Replace the missing grab rope





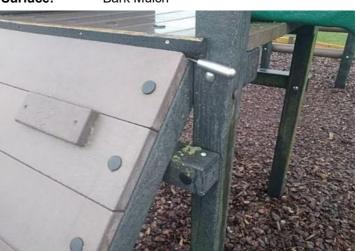


5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 8)

Item:Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)Risk Level:V - Very Low RiskManufacturer:Not IdentifiedSurface:Bark Mulch



Finding: There is/are finger entrapment/s in the structure and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.6 Entrapment of fingers



Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended

T

8 - Low Risk (Finding 9)



Finding: The timber edge forms a hard object within the falling space of the equipment in contravention of the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1



Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended







8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Multi Use Games Area - Basket Ball Goal Risk Level: L - Low Risk Item: Surface: Manufacturer: Playquest Grass





Finding: A support brace has been removed/not fitted

Action: The frame is stable. Monitor and replace the brace if required

6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Multi Use Games Area - Basket Ball Goal Risk Level: L - Low Risk Manufacturer: Playquest Surface: Grass



Finding: The paintwork on this item has been damaged or Action: Treat any rusting components and repaint worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting



5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Multi Use Games Area - Basket Ball Goal Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk

Manufacturer: Playquest Surface: Grass



Finding: A clearly visible facility sign should be provided in a prominent position with the wording as detailed BS EN 15312- the equipment is not intended for children less than 3 years old- the warning - Do not climb on the framework or nets- the warning - Do not hang on the ring (if provided)- the warning - Do not wear rings or other jewellery- name and telephone number of the administrator- number to call in case of accident





8 - Low Risk (Finding 4)

Item:Multi Use Games Area - Basket Ball GoalRisk Level:L - Low RiskManufacturer:PlayquestSurface:Grass





Finding: There are trip hazards at the edges of the surface

Action: Reinstate surrounding surface levels to remove the trip points