

Risk Assessment for re-opening play areas and outside gym – July 2020

Important Notes:

1. The COVID-19 Risk Assessment may need to be updated in the light of any new government advice that may be forthcoming.
2. This document should be read in conjunction with relevant legislation and guidance issued by government and local authorities.

Area or People at Risk	Risk identified	Actions to take to mitigate risk
<p>Staff and users of the play areas and outdoor gym (parents, carers, children, guardians)</p>	<p>Surfaces infected by people carrying the virus. Disposing of rubbish. Measures to ensure social distancing Cleaning and hygiene – virus surviving on equipment/ hard surfaces Children/ users with special needs Ensuring staff safety Occasional Maintenance workers/visitors.</p>	<p>Signage to remind users of the need to adhere to social distancing in accordance with existing government guidance (distinguishing between adults and children with certain conditions who may find social distancing difficult).</p> <p>Implement a booking system to enable users to book a slot to use equipment.</p> <p>Limiting numbers using a piece of equipment to minimise transmission. Measures include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - signs to communicate maximum number of users at one time - request those using the play area to only have 1 family member accompanying a child - limiting the available number of seats on equipment or numbers of swings available to promote social distancing, including for parents, carers or guardians who might push children on swings for example - setting a time limit and using signs to communicate this to users, parents, guardians or carers - using adjacent space for queues or waiting areas for users, parents, guardians and carers using barriers,

		<p>markings or signs where it is safe to do so. When implementing a queue or waiting area, consideration must be taken of its impact on the surrounding space and ensure it does not impede other users or pedestrians, particularly considering those with visual or hearing impairments, mobility problems and invisible disabilities.</p> <p>For outdoor gyms the introduction of a clearly marked one-way system around the fixtures/ machines, to help prevent users from coming into close contact with each other.</p> <p>For outdoor gyms, where machines and equipment are less than 2 metres apart pieces of equipment should be moved to allow social distancing measures to be adhered to if possible. If not possible, 1 metre distance with risk mitigation is acceptable. The mitigations should be set out in the risk assessment.</p> <p>Clean high traffic touch points frequently. Cleaning regimes for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - playground equipment for children, usually up to age 14, such as slides monkey bars and climbing frames - enclosed crawl through 'tunnels' or tube slides - exercise bars and machine handles on outdoor gym equipment - entry and exit points such as gates - seating areas such as benches and picnic tables refuse areas/bins <p>Encourage effective sanitation by users, parents, guardians and carers.</p>
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<p>Conclusion</p> <p>Further to the above assessment it is my recommendation that the Parish Council’s Play areas and outside gym remain closed. The risks and measures identified are too great to ensure the safe use of the equipment to prevent the risk of contamination by the virus and its spread. The enforcement of the provisions would not be able to be adequately mitigated. This information will be communicated via the Parish Council website and social media channels.</p> <p>This assessment will be updated as and when required following government guidance.</p>		