



Whitfield Parish Council - Risk Assessment

Activity: COVID-19 precautions for the Play Areas and Adult Gym

Prepared by: J Goodsell

Issue Number: 5

Location: Whitfield Parish Council Recreation Ground

Verified by: J Matcham

Issue Date: December 2021

Hazard	Risk	HML	Control Measure in place	Improvement/Action/Review
Transmission of COVID-19 between persons either directly or indirectly	<p>Risk to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff, Councillors, Visitors, Members of the Public and Contractors <p>while using Parish Council Recreation Ground, play areas, MUGA games court and adult gym equipment</p>	Med	<p>Parish Clerk and Chairman will keep up to date with all relevant guidance issued by the Government, Public Health England or the NHS regarding COVID-19 and to update this Risk Assessment accordingly.</p> <p>The Parish Council's Insurers have confirmed policy cover for COVID-19 providing reasonable steps are taken to prevent or protect against injury, illness, loss or damage arising.</p> <p>Advisory posters and notices shall be in place in and around the areas to convey appropriate information on control measures for the users of the equipment.</p> <p>Changes to Government Regulations and Guidance:</p> <p>While cases remain high, everybody needs to continue to act carefully & remain cautious to protect themselves and others. (see GOV.UK for details)</p> <p>Regulation and Guidance may change or require closure. Measures are in place to ensure effective closure and safe re-opening for use by Members of the Public as required:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clerk will instruct Grounds Staff to close off and re-open facilities as required by changes in Regulations and Guidance. Individual areas and pieces of equipment can be closed for use as required by padlocking gates and use of hazard tape etc. After a period of closure, the facilities shall only be re-opened after full Risk Assessment and inspection of the site and equipment is carried out. Members of Grounds Staff shall inspect equipment, fittings, gates and fences to ensure it is in a safe condition to use and carry out any maintenance and repair to damaged or defective items before re-opening. <p>Cleaning and hygiene:</p> <p>Due to resourcing constraints and consideration of risk to Grounds Staff the Parish Council will not periodically clean equipment, but will encourage users and their supervising adults to be responsible for their own cleaning and hygiene</p>	Clerk / Chairman to monitor changes in Government Advice and update this RA as required.
Conventional Health and Safety Risk from defective or poorly maintained play and gym equipment, fittings and fixtures, gates and fences.	<p>Risk to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitors, Members of the Public <p>while using Parish Council Recreation Ground, play areas,</p>	Low	<p>Normal health and safety requirements must not be compromised at this time.</p> <p>Inspections will be carried out to ensure the Council's legal responsibilities under health and safety law are fulfilled, and that reasonable measures to ensure the premises, access to it, and any equipment or substances provided are safe for people using it, so far as is reasonably practicable.</p>	Any defects or outstanding maintenance which cannot be remedied at the time of the inspection shall be reported to the Parish Clerk for further assessment



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	MUGA games court and adult gym equipment		If an activity cannot be undertaken safely, due to COVID-19 protective measures being implemented, it must not take place.	and appropriate action.
Transmission of COVID-19 between persons either directly or indirectly	Risk to Staff and Members while carrying out inspection, maintenance and cleaning of play and gym equipment	Med	<p>Grounds Staff and Members instructed to follow requirements of COVID-19 Precautions Risk Assessment with particular attention to the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Distancing should be maintained as much as possible, from both Staff and Members of the Public. • Cloth Face Masks must be worn in internal areas shared with others, unless medically exempt. • Anyone entering the facilities and offices will sanitise their hands before entering and after exiting and securing the building. • Hands are washed or sanitised before and after work and regularly during the working period. • Hands should be washed or sanitised before and after touching shared equipment • Touching of eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands should be avoided at all times • Coughs and sneezes should be caught by sneezing into the elbow or with a tissue and thrown into a bin • Individuals should take responsibility for the cleaning of surfaces and equipment in work areas that they have come into contact with, to protect themselves and those around them (cleaning must be carried out using anti-viral and anti-bacterial sprays or wipes). Hands should be thoroughly washed after such cleaning. • Tools and equipment must be cleaned before and after use. Tools and equipment should not be shared between users without sanitisation. • The alarm keypad will be wiped clean before and after use. 	Grounds Staff to report any difficulties or concerns to Parish Clerk for assessment and appropriate action.
Dirty or potentially COVID-19 infected equipment	Risk to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff, • Members of the Public while using Parish Council	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grounds Staff undertake cleaning of dirty, unused Play and Gym equipment prior to re-opening facilities. As equipment has not been used during periods of closure, the risk of any active virus accumulation is very low. 	



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			<p>Additional Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anyone self isolating or with COVID-19 Symptoms should not enter the Playgrounds, games court or gym areas• Reminding parents / carers that they are responsible for the Health and Safety of Children in their care and that allowing children to use playground equipment is done at their own risk• Prohibit Spitting, in Play Areas, MUGA and Adult Gym• Disposal of all litter, including any used protective wear such as face coverings or gloves properly, in litter bins or taking it home• Display contact Detail for reporting of any cleaning or maintenance issues <p>Additional Measures are included on displayed signs</p>	