

Payhembury Parish Council

Risk Assessment – Playground

Event / Activity	Use of Playground
Location	Playing fields next to St Mary’s Church
People affected	All visitors to the playground
Date of Event	Every day
Risk assessment completed by (name)	Dawn Chamberlain, Parish Clerk, Payhembury Parish Council
Risk assessment completed/reviewed (date)	22 nd February 2024
Risk assessment next review date	February 2025

Note: i) please see guidance notes at the end of the Risk Assessment regarding Risk Levels; ii) the playing fields are inspected weekly by a Councillor

Hazard	Potential injury....	Initial Assessment			Control Measure	Residual Assessment			Monitoring and Further Action Required
		Probability	Severity	Risk		Probability	Severity	Risk	
Litter, glass and dog mess	Cuts, grazes and illness	2	4	8	Users to safely dispose of litter, glass, dog mess in waste disposal bin provided. Bin is emptied regularly by EDDC. Signage prohibiting dogs at the entrance to the playing fields.	1	4	4	Users to report problems to the Parish Council/Clerk for response. Provide contact details for public to report issues
Poisonous, thorny or stinging plants	Skin irritations, scratches	3	2	6	Grounds maintained by an approved contractor employed by the Council.	2	2	4	Users to report problems to the Parish Council/Clerk for response.
Poorly maintained ground	Slips, trips and falls resulting in cuts, bruises, abrasions & other injuries.	2	3	6	Regular ground maintenance by approved and qualified contractor to keep grass short and obstructions visible.	1	3	3	Contractors’ risk assessments and procedures reviewed at appointment and copies kept with the Clerk.
Hard, uneven or slippery surface around play	Slips, trips and falls resulting in cuts, bruises, abrasions & other injuries.	2	3	6	Suitable safety surfacing (e.g. grass, bark, sand, matting) maintained under and around play equipment.	1	3	3	Annual ROSPA accredited inspections reported at Parish Council meeting. Users to report problems to the Parish

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equipment									Council/Clerk for response.
Operation of vehicles or machinery by contractors	Collision/contact injuries, burns, cuts, impact from materials flying out of mower blades	2	4	8	Contractor to operate safely and work in accordance with risk assessments.	1	4	4	Contractors' risk assessments and procedures reviewed regularly and copies kept with the Clerk
Damaged or faulty benches, gates or fencing	Cuts, bruises, trapped fingers etc from contact with or falls from faulty benches, gates or fences	2	4	8	Picnic bench requires 3-4 people to move. Gates and fencing inspected as part of weekly and annual inspection. Repairs actioned ASAP.	1	4	4	Parishioners/users to report urgent problems to the Parish Clerk for rapid response. Provide contact details for public to report issues
Damaged or defective play equipment	Slips, trips & falls causing cuts, bruises, broken limbs, head injuries following use or falls from play equipment	2	4	8	All equipment inspected as part of annual RoSPA accredited inspections. Weekly inspection by Cllr. Defective or damaged equipment is removed, repaired or replaced ASAP.	1	4	4	Annual RoSPA accredited inspections reported at Parish Council meeting. Parishioners/users to report urgent problems to the Parish Clerk for rapid response. Provide contact details for public to report issues.
Trees	Injury from falling trees or branches Trips, falls caused by fallen branches	1	3	3	The trees on the playing field are still only a few feet high so do not pose a problem. Trees along the side of the adjoining graveyard are the responsibility of the Church to maintain.	1	3	3	Maintain regular inspections and maintenance programme Users to report problems to the Parish Council/Clerk for response. Check with Church Council that the trees are inspected regularly by a qualified arborist.

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Severity	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
		1	2	3	4	5
	Likelihood					

Likelihood	
5	Certain
4	Likely
3	Possible
2	Unlikely
1	Rare

Severity	
5	Very high - Severe injury involving the potential for permanent disability or death
4	High - Serious injury including hospitalisation for observation
3	Moderate – injury requiring medical intervention
2	Slight – minor injury
1	Very low – no injury likely

1-4 Low	5-9 Medium	10-16 High	17-25 Very High
<p>Continue with existing control, however monitor for changes.</p> <p>Implement any additional control measures required, within the timescales given in the risk assessment</p>	<p>Requires attention to reduce the rating as well as regular ongoing monitoring.</p> <p>Implement any additional control measures required, within the timescales given in the risk assessment.</p>	<p>Requires immediate attention to bring the risk down to an acceptable level.</p> <p>Implement the control measures required, within the timescales given in the risk assessment and continue to review working practices to reduce the probability of an accident to the lowest possible level.</p>	<p>Stop immediately – the risk is too high.</p> <p>Take immediate action to reduce the risk to the lowest level possible.</p>