

TMPI LTD

Trevor Muller (RPII)

Playground Inspections Ltd

1 Barnfield Cottage, Barnfield Road
Charing Heath, Ashford,
Kent TN27 0BN

Email: trevor.tmpi@gmail.com

Tel: 07812596662

www.tmpi.ltd

Annual Playground Inspection for Gouldburn Green Play Area, The Street, Betchworth RH3 7DH

Inspection date and finish time	09/11/2023	09.30	Report date	11/11/2023
				<p>Overall area risk level:</p> <p>LOW</p>



INTRODUCTION: This inspection was carried out to the principles and relevant parts of the following standards:

- Children's Playgrounds play equipment and surfaces to BS EN 1176 (2017).

Inspections are non-dismantling and do not examine equipment below ground, and assume the operator is carrying out suitable maintenance including as recommended by the manufacturers. Trees are not inspected. The critical height of impact absorbing surfaces is not tested. There is no reliable and practical method of inspecting timbers including below ground timbers and any findings relating to timber equipment must be considered as indicative only. Please refer to Terms and Conditions provided at the time of quotation for further information.

INSPECTION METHODOLOGY: BS EN 1176-7 (2017) recommends that playground operators carry out an Annual Main Inspection in order to establish

- the overall level of safety of equipment, foundations and surfaces
- compliance with the relevant parts of EN 1176
- the effectiveness of all safety measures and any changes made to safety measures
- effects of weather, presence of rotting or corrosion
- any change in the level of safety of the equipment as a result of repairs made, or of added or replaced components

In order to achieve this BS EN 1176-7 (2017) advises operators that

1. inspections of equipment should be undertaken by competent persons
2. inspections may involve excavation or dismantling of certain parts
3. the manufacturer's inspection and maintenance instructions should be followed, and
4. additional measures may be necessary to detect other possible deterioration.

This annual inspection should be considered as solely contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility as set out in 1 above.



The inspector is a qualified and registered as an outdoor annual inspector by the Register of Play Inspectors International (**RPII, Registration Number 1115A**) and his level of competence as assessed by RPII is limited within the following inspection competence framework as defined by RPII: -

vandalism, minor and major wear, long-term structural problems, changes in the Standards compliance and design practices, risk assessments etc.

In order to undertake the inspection within this competence framework the inspector uses visual and manual inspection and manipulation of equipment and components and applies his knowledge of the relevant BS EN standards.

He is not qualified or competent to carry out inspections which require the use of tools including calibration tools, intrusive examination of materials, structural measurements or excavation or dismantling of components. Where the operator has need for these in order to complete the Annual Main Inspection requirements a suitably competent person is required.

The Annual Main Inspection requires that the manufacturer's inspection and maintenance requirements are followed (see 3 above). The inspector's competence is strictly limited to the equipment as found and inspected on site unless by agreement advanced provision of the relevant manufacturer's guidance has been provided to him.

MANUFACTURER'S INSPECTION INSTRUCTIONS: The Annual Main Inspection requires that the manufacturer's inspection and maintenance requirements are followed, and the inspector's competence is strictly limited to the equipment as found and inspected on site unless advanced provision of the relevant manufacturer's guidance has been provided to him. If they have not/cannot be provided, then the inspection cannot be considered as fully Standard compliant and the risk assessments given can only be considered as provisional.

INSPECTOR'S ADVICE: The inspection practices undertaken by the inspector and described above are capable of identifying most circumstances which could result in an injury. However, some elements of play equipment cannot be sufficiently checked using these procedures, for example because they are concealed from view and/or are not responsive to manual inspection or manipulation or are sealed for-life.

In the event of this occurrence a provisional risk assessment will be given in this report with advice on what further actions should be undertaken by the operator in order to complete the risk assessment.

TIMBERS: There is no reliable and practical method of inspecting timbers including below ground timbers and any findings relating to timber equipment must be considered as indicative only. Please refer to Terms and Conditions provided at the time of quotation for further information.

IMPACT ABSORBING SURFACING (IAS): An assessment of the critical height of loose fill impact IAS includes consideration of both the depth of the material and the particulate size of the loose fill material itself; with those two parameters it is possible to assess the risk level of the surfacing using BS EN 1176-1 Table 4.

Where the inspector finds the particulate size of the material is outside the relevant range as given in Table 4, he is only able to give a provisional risk assessment of the surfacing. To complete the risk assessment and establish a suitable depth for the IAS in relation to the fall height of the equipment the operator should refer to the Certificate of Test to BS EN 1177 (2008) provided by the supplier of the material. In cases where the particulate size of the IAS has deteriorated over time it may be necessary, in order to fully meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 and provide a reliable risk assessment, to replace the surfacing with material which meets the particulate sizes given in Table 4.

The critical height of impact absorbing surfaces is not tested as set out in BS EN 1177.



RISK ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Probability >>	5	Very high	VL	L	M	H	VH
	4	High	VL	L	M	H	H
	3	Moderate	VL	L	L	M	M
	2	Low	VL	L	L	L	L
	1	Very low	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
			Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
			1	2	3	4	5

Severity >>

Probability Score	Probability of Occurrence
1 – Very low	No significant probability; lightning strike
2 – Low	Minimal probability of occurrence. Requires significant factor or combination of factors to take place. Significant increase in intensity of use
3 – Moderate	Moderate probability. An added factor is needed to cause an accident. Designed use is unlikely to be problematic, additional factor required. Covers or guards loose, removed or vandalised. Absent guard rail or barrier at high levels
4 – High	High probability. Accident is probable without any added factor. Glass contaminant in loose fill surface. Exposed sharp edges on equipment.
5 – Very high	Very high probability. If the situation is not addressed an accident is almost certain. Severely work chains/shackles. Severely damaged surfacing within impact area




Severity Score	Severity of injury
1 – Very low	No injury likely e.g. damaged or soiled clothing, minor bruising
2 – Low	Minor injury – laceration or bruising requiring first aid only
3 – Moderate	Injury requiring medical intervention e.g. laceration requiring stitches, sprain, fracture of small bones in hand or foot
4 – High	Serious injury including hospitalisation for observation e.g. concussion, fracture of long bones of leg/arm, back/neck injuries, fractured skull
5 – Very high	Severe injury involving the potential for permanent disability e.g. amputation, loss of sight, spinal injury, fatality




N.B. When we inspect, we only see a snapshot of the current condition of the equipment. It is the operator’s 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.

- BS EN 1175:2017 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 16899: 2018 (Specification for Parkour equipment)
- BS EN 16630 (Permanently installed outdoor fitness equipment)




FINDINGS: SITE

SITE: General surfacing, pathways		RISK ASSESSMENT & ACTION IF NECESSARY	
ASSESSMENT		Risk Assessment	Action
Approaches The site is located in a partially walled garden, it is adjacent to a road and partially overlooked by houses		 Faults or failures see below	
Hazard Road	The site is adjacent to a busy road and has a staggered barrier gate system. Children may stray into the road if parents were distracted	 2 x 4 low	Consider alternative gate method to eliminate the hazard. Warning signs for approaching drivers further control measures
Hazard Tree	The site is dominated by several large trees. Trees do not form part of this inspection.	 No risk value could be given	Consult the parish tree policy and risk assessment

<p>Hazard Gas cabinet</p>	<p>There is a Southern Gas network installation, the cover is easily lifted. Utility installations do not fall under the scope of this inspection. A keep away sign has been placed on the item but consider more control measures</p>		<p>No risk value could be given</p>	<p>Contact the owner and request the cabinet is secured or seek assurances of the suitability of the siting</p>
<p>SITE: Gates, fence, signs, seats, bins</p>			<p>RISK ASSESSMENT & ACTION IF NECESSARY</p>	
<p>ASSESSMENT</p>			<p>Risk Assessment</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>Equipment: Fence Location: Perimeter of the area Manufacturer: No manufacturer identified Material: Timber, metal infill</p>		<p>No faults or failures found</p>		
<p>ASSESSMENT</p>			<p>Risk Assessment</p>	<p>Action required</p>
<p>Equipment: Bin Location: Entrance Manufacturer: No manufacturer identified Material: Plastic</p>		<p>No faults or failures found</p>		

ASSESSMENT		Risk Assessment	Action required
<p>Equipment: Operator sign</p> <p>Location: Adjacent to the wall</p> <p>Manufacturer: No manufacturer identified</p> <p>Material: Timber</p>		No faults or failures found	
ASSESSMENT		Risk Assessment	Action required
<p>Equipment: Bench no back</p> <p>Location: Grassed area</p> <p>Manufacturer: No manufacturer identified</p> <p>Material: Timber</p>		No faults or failures found	

FINDINGS: EQUIPMENT

EQUIPMENT: Multi play, swings		RISK ASSESSMENT & ACTION IF NECESSARY	
ASSESSMENT		Risk Assessment	Action
<p>Equipment: Multi play</p> <p>Manufacturer: Eibe play</p> <p>Surface: Grass matrix tiles</p>		No faults or failures found	
ASSESSMENT		Risk Assessment	Action
<p>Equipment: 1 bay, mixed swings</p> <p>Manufacturer: Eibe play</p> <p>Surface: Grass matrix tiles</p>		No faults or failures found	