



ROWDE PARISH COUNCIL

Playground Risk Management Policy



ADOPTED: 10.12.2025 REVIEWED: MAY 2026

To be reviewed May 2027

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR:		PLAYGROUND	
Establishment:	Assessment by: Tekla Hicks, Parish Clerk.	Date:	
Review Due Date: Annual			

Hazard/Risk	Who is at Risk?	How can the hazards cause harm?	Normal Control Measures	Are Normal Control Measures. Y/N/N/A	
				In Place	Residual Risk
Playground equipment	Users	Cuts / abrasions, broken limbs, muscular skeletal and other physical injuries	- Regular checks for defects and reporting of these - Inspections of play and sports equipment. - Annual maintenance assessment by ROSPA. - Repair of damaged equipment.		
Falling from climbing apparatus	Users	Cuts / abrasions, broken limbs, muscular skeletal and other physical injuries	- Signage to clarify Parish Council Rules of use. - Rubber crumb matting used where falls anticipated. - Ensure activities have appropriate railing if necessary.		
Swings	Users and Spectators	Falls, impacts & collisions	- Rubber crumb matting to minimise fall impacts. - Bucket swing seat for toddler and baby swing.		
Rockers	Users	Falls, abrasions	- Good hand holds provided. - Smooth seats to avoid abrasions.		
Litter, glass	Users	Minor injuries, cuts/abrasions	- Inspection of the area and litter pick as required. - Bin available.		
Used needles	Users	Needle stick injury, bloodborne viruses (HIV, Hep B)	Inspection of the area and litter pick (identify measures for preventing needle stick injuries).		

Dog Faeces	Users	Infection, Toxicariasis	• Provide signage at entrance points to explain dogs are prohibited. • Provide suitable fencing to ensure unsupervised dogs do not enter Playpark.		
Trees, poisonous or thorny plants	Users	Minor injury, abrasion, allergic reaction	• Annual cutting of hedges. • Identify any plants identified as being an irritant or a danger.		
Hard surfaces/ slip trips and falls	Users	Broken limbs, muscular, skeletal and other physical injuries	• Ensure that the play areas are even and maintained. • Area periodically checked for missing drain covers, uneven surfaces, etc. • Any areas which become unsuitable will need to be coned off and placed out of bounds until repairs can be undertaken.		
Escaping children	Young children	Lost, collision with cars	• Provide suitable fencing and gates which cannot be opened by young children.		

DATE OF REVIEW:	COMMENTS:

RESIDUAL RISK RATING	ACTION REQUIRED
VERY HIGH (VH) Strong likelihood of fatality / serious injury occurring	The activity must not take place at all. You must identify further controls to reduce the risk rating.
HIGH (H) Possibility of fatality/serious injury occurring	You must identify further controls to reduce the risk rating. Seek further advice, e.g. from SHDC
MEDIUM (M) Possibility of significant injury	If it is not possible to lower risk further, you will need to consider the risk against the benefit. Monitor risk assessments at this rating more regularly and closely.
LOW (L) Possibility of minor injury only	No further action required.