

Risk Benefit Assessment School Playgrounds

Brief description of activity	School and early years settings outdoor spaces
Location of activity	A standard playground with tarmac surfaces, fall zones and surfaces, scattered trees, bushes and open grass, steps, play equipment and sports pitches.
Participants	LtL staff, children and adults
Benefit of activity	Settings outdoor spaces provide a safe and engaging place to play and learn, benefitting physical, mental and social wellbeing. These spaces enable LtL to undertake their work and meet their charitable aims.

Activity	Hazard	Control Methods
Arriving at site	Vehicle movements	Liaise with setting ahead of time to know where is safe to park and unload. Parking within the guidelines of the highway code. Awareness of moving vehicles.
Unpacking/transporting resources & equipment	Manual handling	Good lifting practice (shared weight, straight back). Transport heavy/awkward items in multiple loads or with assistance (people, trolleys). Extra care to be taken on steps, rough or slippery terrain. Staff to undertake manual handling training
Using the space	exposure to heat, cold & wind	Assess the weather's impact on a session considering the local environment – condition of trees, and adjacent buildings Staff and children should be dressed appropriately for the weather conditions. Activities not to run outside if Amber weather warning in place.
	Slips, trips, falls,	Inspection of playground to identify topography, equipment or items of concern. Read the onsite risk assessment to understand risks and control measures in place LtL staff hold a first aid qualification and carry first aid kit
Interacting with natural environment	Dangerous items, sharp objects, toxic or poisonous flora and fauna, zoonosis	Visual inspection of environment to identify any potential hazards, poisonous flora, litter, faeces or other foreign objects. LtL staff to remove objects if safe to do so, or isolate hazard and alert site team to issue. LtL staff hold a first aid qualification and carry a first aid kit.

Interacting with each other	Groups or individuals becoming isolated, overcrowding, impacts and collisions	Ensure group size is appropriate for levels of supervision. Establish boundaries or learning areas. Be aware of group needs and additional support which may be required Work to the school's lost child and safeguarding procedures.
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Precedents or comparisons	School playgrounds are designed to be child friendly and maintained to relevant standard.
Judgement	School playgrounds pose minimal risks and should be used by all without fear. Cark parks alongside grounds pose more risk but with the control measures in place the risks can be managed.

Assessor	Polly Baker	Signature		Date	17/04/26
Form Checked by	Emily Akerman	Signature	E.Akerman	Date	17/04/26
Review Date	April 27				