

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL

REOPENING PLAY AREAS

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Government announced that Play Parks could be re-opened on 4 July 2020 and produced guidance offering “practical advice on how these can be reopened and managed effectively to enable their use while minimising the transmission risk of COVID-19”. The guidance is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms>

The guidance includes a requirement to “carry out an appropriate COVID-19 risk assessment”. It is made very clear that “Failure to complete a risk assessment which takes account of COVID-19, or completing a risk assessment but failing to put in place sufficient measures to manage the risk of COVID-19, could constitute a breach of health and safety law”. On that basis, this Risk Assessment takes each of the Key Principles as set out in the guidance and assesses whether or not practical arrangements can be put in place in the context of the two open access Play Areas.

Key Principle	Government Guidance	Assessment	Conclusion
General Maintenance Issues following Lockdown	Ensure equipment is safe to use and that risks from damaged or defective equipment are addressed before opening.	The equipment will all be checked by Groundsman (RoSPA Trained) prior to re-opening and checked weekly by Groundsman. Grass Cutting to be carried out before reopening and regularly, weather permitting.	RoSPA Inspection carried out in March following floods and repairs being carried out before reopening
Social Distancing	Put in place measures to support social distancing – 2m or 1m plus risk mitigations. Examples given include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limit number of users at any one time• Booking system	The equipment is well spaced, the only issues may arise in relation to the climbing frame.	Subject to appropriate signage, suggesting limited number of users in each area.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory signage • Create waiting areas with barriers 	<p>Not possible to introduce a booking system</p> <p>Use advisory signage to mitigate the risk.</p>	<p>Provide barriers in Burgage and create a waiting area if necessary.</p>
Cleaning and Hygiene	<p>Clean high traffic touch points frequently. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Play Equipment • Seating Areas • Litter Bins <p>In addition, use signage to encourage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Users to clean equipment before and after use • Use of hand sanitiser and frequent hand washing <p>Where practicable, provide hand sanitiser or hand washing facilities at entry and exit points.</p>	<p>Hand Sanitiser Stations to be provided at entrance to Under 8's and over 8's play areas.</p> <p>Equipment to be cleaned regularly with disinfectant by Groundsman.</p>	<p>It is accepted that there is a risk of children using the play equipment passing the virus.</p> <p>Equipment to be cleaned every other day or as necessary.</p>
Additional Measures and Communicating with Parents	<p>Promote responsible behaviour by children, parents, carers and guardians. For example, owners and operators should consider putting up signs to make clear to users, parents, guardians and carers that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consumption of food or drink on play equipment or in the playground area is banned • parents, guardians or carers should dispose of all litter including any used protective wear such as face coverings or gloves properly in litter bins, taking it home where a bin is not provided. 	<p>The provision of signage and messages on social media, Council website, schools and generally by word of mouth, should provide sufficient communication with potential users</p>	<p>The steps proposed would mitigate the risks significantly</p>
Considering Children with Additional Needs	<p>Take into account the requirements of children with additional needs.</p>	<p>These are risks which can only be an assessment by carers/parents or guardians.</p>	<p>The Town Council are not providers of specialist services for children with additional</p>

			needs and any risk assessment must be undertaken by carers.
Keeping Staff Safe	<p>Consider the risks staff may be exposed to and how these can be mitigated. Staff roles may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cleaning playground equipment/surrounding areas • managing queues of those waiting to use equipment • stewarding equipment to ensure users comply with rules made by the owner/operator 	<p>Verbal abuse</p> <p>Contracting Coronavirus</p>	<p>Lone Worker device provided.</p> <p>Regular contact with Town Clerk</p> <p>PPE Provided</p>

**Tenbury Town Council
Risk Assessment**

Activity – **TTC Owned Play Areas (COVID-19)**

Location – The Burgage

Date – 08/07/2020

Reference -

Completed by – L Bruton

HAZARD	PERSONS AT RISK	HAZARD RATING X LIKELIHOOD (H x L)			CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL RISK (H x L)			FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED (If Total = 12 or more)
		H	L	Total		H	L	Total	
		1-5	1-5	1-25		1-5	1-5	1-25	
Spread of COVID-19 due to touching surfaces and lack of social distancing	Members of the public & employees	5	5	25	Signs to be installed at each site, detailing: - social distancing; - hygiene; - 1 adult per child in play area; - do not use if busy; - if busy, use for a short time and move on - avoid touching face. Swing seats to be removed in double-bay swings to aid social distancing Equipment with multiple seats to be taped off to enable social distancing. Employees to wear gloves,	5	2	10	

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					<p>while carrying out maintenance and inspections, and to refer Hygiene Management (Coronavirus).</p> <p>All sites to be inspected before reopening by RoSPA trained member of staff.</p> <p>All sites to be deep cleaned prior to opening.</p> <p>Routine play area inspections carried out to identify any additional hazards.</p> <p>Local Covid-19 infection rates to be monitored and play area closures put in place if required.</p>				

Monitor