

# the play inspection company

## **Annual Inspection**

North Hertfordshire District Council

Kimpton Parish Council - Recreation Ground

Kimpton, North Herts, SG4 8RA





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## **RPII Inspection Methodology**

This document outlines the RPII position on inspections undertaken by the Inspectors listed on the RPII Register of Inspectors for Indoor Annual, Outdoor Annual, Outdoor Operational and Outdoor Routine.

Inspections are undertaken with reference to the standards listed in this preamble only; where no date for the standard is given it the date of the standard will be that current at the time of inspection with the exception of where overlap periods are granted by the standards committee when standards are updated. The information contained in reports is provided to assist the owner/operator in fulfilling their responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standard. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of the inspection.

The following standards are relevant to all installations of equipment that are publicly accessible to users; this would include public parks, pay and play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks etc. All equipment used or employed in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant standards (listed below);

BS EN 1176 Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 & 11 Playground equipment intended for permanent installation outdoors & indoors.

BS EN 1176 Part 7 - 'Guidance on Installation, Inspection, Maintenance and Operation' (this document gives guidance to the owners/operators of the facility on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of playground equipment, including ancillary items).

Domestic play equipment falls outside of the scope of BS EN 1176 and has its own standard (BS EN 71 – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report but any comments concerning compliance within the inspection will still refer to BS EN 1176.

Other equipment that is not clearly identified as unsupervised or domestic (natural play, self-build equipment etc.) will be assessed for compliance with the relevant standard listed below:

- BS EN 15312 Free access multi-sports equipment
- BS EN 14974 Skateparks
- BS EN 16630 Permanently installed outdoor fitness equipment
- BS EN 16899 Parkour equipment (plus RPII/API guidance notes)

Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with current standards and defects related to wear and vandalism. Items not listed in the report have not been included in the inspection. The inspection will cover the playground equipment and the active area up to 3.0 metres around, or the fence line if closer.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to wear and vandalism. Routine visual inspections (if undertaken) relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).

The inspection is non-dismantling, non-destructive and does not include for any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a manual test for stability and if equipment fails under manual load, or any other hazard is identified as an unacceptable risk, the owner/operator will be notified as soon as practicably possible.

The inspector will access all standing surfaces as necessary on the equipment and assess all parts up to 2.5m above the standing surface. Where it is not possible to access parts of the equipment without employing an alternative means of access the report will record the action required by the owner/operator to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment. Ancillary equipment will be assessed using the inspector's knowledge and experience of the standards named in this document to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable the continued safe use of the items concerned. The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area. Inspectors who are trained to use ladders may use them where it is safe to do so, but if members of the public are present on-site ladders may not be used to access the equipment.

The inspector will not undertake any of the following works unless specifically agreed in writing at the time of order:

Checking the depth and underlying structural integrity of any surface areas and/or carrying out any testing of impact absorbing properties of any surfaces. The identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection or the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is underground. Tightening any bolts, hinges or other fixing devices on any apparatus or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any electrical installations contained on any site and/or apparatus and/or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any electrical installations computerised systems (including carrying out any programming).

Where planting or trees are mentioned in the report no aboricultural or horticultural assessments of toxicity, suitability or condition are undertaken; the owner/operator should have suitable inspections provided by a competent person.

The owner/operator should have a 'design risk assessment' provided by the manufacturer/designer of the area for the equipment and location in which the facility is installed.

The operator is responsible for managing risks of their provision and is required by law to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient assessment' of the risks associated with a site or activity and this inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility.

The details contained within the report are a snapshot of the condition at the time of inspection only and subsequent events may affect the condition of the facility. Suggested remedial actions are based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector and/ or that of the inspection company. The owner/operator should seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person at all times when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

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### Table 1

The operator is responsible for following the guidance of the relevant standards. The standards give guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of the various types of facilities. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in an RPII Annual or Post-Installation Inspection. The relevant standards also contain additional parts which the operator should follow.

Inspection recommendations of relevant standards Refer to relevant standards for full text	Annual Main	RPII Annual Outdoor/ Fully enclosed Inspection
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of equipment (see note 1)	$\checkmark$	<b>V</b> [1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 1)	$\checkmark$	✓ [1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of playing surfaces (see note 2)	$\checkmark$	✓ [2]
6.1 d) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard and or risk assessment (see note 3)	~	✓ [3]
6.1 d) Effects of weather	$\checkmark$	<ul> <li></li> </ul>
6.1 d) Presence of rot, decay or corrosion (see note 1)	$\checkmark$	<b>V</b> [1]
6.1 d) Assessment of repairs made or added or replaced components (see note 4)	~	<b>V</b> [4]
6.1 d) Excavation or dismantling/additional measures	~	×
6.2.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 5)	~	<b>V</b> [5]
6.2.1 Inspection of one post equipment (see note 1)	$\checkmark$	<b>V</b> [1]
6.2.4 Undertaking the Operators inspection protocol	$\checkmark$	×

NB: The clause numbers in table 1 are taken from BS EN 1176 - Part 7:2020. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards listed herein. Playgrounds contain a range of equipment from different manufacturers and installed over a number of years; operators should implement any guidance provided by the manufacturer. Item specific detail is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall Annual Main Inspection as detailed in the relevant standards.

[1] A manual test only is undertaken for stability. Wear and instability are only detectable where readily apparent without dismantling or destruction and without the use of tools, excavation or specialist equipment. Rot and corrosion are tested or with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment.

[2] Only the visible condition and dimensional compliance of surface extent is considered. Neither testing of impact attenuating properties nor measurement of the thickness of bound surfaces are undertaken on RPII annual inspections.

[3] The inspection assesses compliance where this can be tested on site using manual methods without dismantling, destruction and without the use of tools or specialist equipment.

[4] The operator should use manufacturer's recommended parts, or equivalent. We are unable to verify if such parts have been used, and any subsequent change in quality or performance

[5] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs or replacement.

### **Risk Assessment Matrix**

			Scores in the report are multiplication factors of Likelihood x Sever			x Severity		
	1	r —			Sev	erity>>		
	Very High probability, if the situation is not addressed an accident is almost certain.	5	Very High	VL (5)	L (10)	M (15)	H (20)	VH (25)
High probability an accident is probable without any added factor.		4	High	VL (4)	L (8)	M (12)	H (16)	H (20)
Likelihood	Moderate probability an incident is foreseeable.	3	Moderate	VL (3)	L (6)	L (9)	M (12)	M (15)
	Some probability, requires a combination of factors to take place.	2	Low	VL (2)	VL (4)	L (6)	L (8)	L (10)
	No significant probability; lightning strike, freak accident.	1	Very Low	VL (1)	VL (2)	VL (3)	VL (4)	VL (5)
			I	Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
	THE PLAN			1	2	3	4	5
	No injury likely e.g. damaged or soiled clothing, minor bruising, grazes     Minor injury, laceration or bruising     Injury requiring medical intervention e.g. cuts requiring stitches     Serious injury including concussions or fracture of long bones     Severe injury involving a potential life changing injury or fatality							
<u> </u>						Severity>>		
each finding numbers are	Note 1: The total risk scores included within our reports are a multiplication factor of the calculated Likelihood and Severity of each finding. Both Likelihood and Severity are given a number between 1 - 5 as shown on the matrix above and these two numbers are then multiplied together to give the total risk score that is shown against defects on the report. Total risk scores can be divided in both directions, i.e. a total risk score of 12 could be a Likelihood (3) x Severity (4) or Likelihood (4) x Severit					these two risk scores		

Note 2: When we inspect we only see a snapshot of the current condition of the equipment. It is the operators 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.

### Equipment has been assessed to the following standards where relevant:

BS EN 1176 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 EN 16899 (Parkour Equipment)

BS EN 16630 (Outdoor Fitness Equipment).



## Kimpton Parish Council - Recreation Ground

Inspection Ref: 1498980

Site Ref: 14108

Inspected: 27-October-2021 - 09:28 by Lyn Williams RPII Annual Inspector

Risk Assessment: 8 Low Risk



### Location:

The site is located in an area of public open space and is overlooked by a number of properties in the local community. **Disabled Access:** 

Some accessible features; an area that presents difficulties to the majority of people with disabilities but in favourable circumstances and certainly in partnership can be accessed.



8 - Low Risk		
Item:	Site General	
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator	
Surface Type:	N/A	A CARLON AND A
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	2	
Finding 1		Finding 2
There is tree debris on the s	urfacing - Remove and maintain	The grass mats are silted up, the soil is compacted and the area will become very slippery when the soil is wet Reinstate as required

Item: Manufacturer: Surface Type: Item Quantity: Equipment Compliance: Surface Area Compliance:	Sign Owner/Operator N/A 1 N/A N/A	
Total Findings:	1	STATI ANTER



Item Quantity:

**Total Findings:** 

Finding 1

Equipment Compliance:

Surface Area Compliance: N/A

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

1

1

N/A

8 - Low Risk		
Item:	Gate	
Manufacturer:	Not Identified	
Surface Type:	Concrete	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	2	
Finding 1		Finding 2
There are openings that are less than 12mm that could trap or crush fingers - Where possible a 12mm gap should be maintained on both sides or between the gate leafs		The gate is snagging on the surrounding surface preventing it from closing correctly - Carry out remedial works to ensure the gate closes correctly
4 - Very Low Risk		
Item:	Gate - Maintenance	
Manufacturer:	Not Identified	
Surface Type:	Gravel	



### 6 - Low Risk Fencing - Timber Item: Manufacturer: Not Identified Surface Type: N/A Item Quantity: 1 **Equipment Compliance:** N/A Surface Area Compliance: N/A Total Findings: 1 Finding 1

There is some damage to the fence sections - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required

ltem:	Brick Wall	the start of the second st
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator	CONTENDED CONTENDED
Surface Type:	N/A	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	1	



rough or sharp edges

Item:	Fencing - Post & Rail	
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator	A STATE OF A
Surface Type:	N/A	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	2	
Finding 1		Finding 2
Parts of the timber are rough or splintered - Remove all rough or sharp edges		There is some evidence of rot in the timber - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

6 - Low Risk		
Item:	Bench	T
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator	
Surface Type:	N/A	
Item Quantity:	2	
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	2	
Finding 1		Finding 2
Parts of the timber are rough	n or splintered - Remove all	There is some evidence of rot in the timber - Monitor for any

further deterioration and replace as required



### 🚹 4 - Very Low Risk

Item:	Picnic Table	
Manufacturer:	Owner/Operator	
Surface Type:	N/A	
Item Part Number:		
Item Quantity:	2	
Equipment Compliance:	N/A	A STATE OF THE STA
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	and the second second
Total Findings:	1	
Finding 1		
This item is satisfactory - no	work required -	

### 🕜 4 - Very Low Risk

Litter Bin
Owner/Operator
N/A
1
N/A
N/A
1



### Finding 1



Item:	Playhouse	
Manufacturer:	Kompan Ltd	
Surface Type:	Grass	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	N/A	
Total Findings:	2	
Finding 1		Finding 2
The area around the item has eroded and may become		There is/are bolt cap covers missing or damaged on the
slippery - Reinstate eroded a	area	item - Replace missing or damaged bolt cap covers

### 4 - Very Low Risk

Item:	Spring Crazy Daisy	and the second sec
Manufacturer:	Kompan Ltd	
Surface Type:	Bark Mulch	
Item Part Number:		
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	1	
Finding 1		
This item is satisfactory - no	work required -	



6 - Low Risk		
Item:	Multi Play (Toddler)	
Manufacturer:	Wicksteed Playgrounds	
Surface Type:	Grass	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	No	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	2	
Finding 1		Finding 2
and the item fails to meet the	nt/s adjacent to the slide entry e requirements of BS EN 1176 fingers - Monitor - No remedial	There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment - Clean and treat appropriately

8 -	Low	Risk

Item:	2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer:	Wicksteed Playgrounds
Surface Type:	Grass
Item Quantity:	1
Equipment Compliance:	No
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes
-	

Total Findings:

5



Finding 1	Finding 2
There are trip hazards at the edges of the tiles - Reinstate surrounding surface levels to remove the trip points	The bushes are showing signs of wear - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required
Finding 3	Finding 4
The paint is flaking off the metalwork - Rub down and re- paint	The chain openings are in excess of the 8.6mm as recommended by BS EN 1176 - Monitor - No remedial work recommended
Finding 5	
There is some notable evidence of chain wear - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace when 40% worn	



### 4 - Very Low Risk 1 Item: Spinning Pole Manufacturer: Kompan Ltd Surface Type: Bark Mulch Item Quantity: 1 Equipment Compliance: Yes Surface Area Compliance: Yes **Total Findings:** 1 Finding 1 This item is satisfactory - no work required -

4 - Very Low Risk	Crimes Devid	
Item:	Spinner Bowl	and the second
Manufacturer:	Kompan Ltd	The second s
Surface Type:	Bark Mulch	the second secon
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	1	
Finding 1		



### 4 - Very Low Risk

Item:	Somersault Bars	
Manufacturer:	Monster Play Systems	
Surface Type:	Bark Mulch	Support of the suppor
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	1	
	-	

### Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

ltem:	Overhead Rotator	
Manufacturer:	S M P (Playgrounds Ltd)	
Surface Type:	Bark Mulch	HERE IN COMPANY AND
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	1	



Item:	Climbing Frame	
Manufacturer:	S M P (Playgrounds Ltd)	
Surface Type:	Grass Matrix Tiles	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	1	

The ropes/nets are worn/damaged in places - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair or replace as required

### 4 - Very Low Risk

ltem: Manufacturer:	Supernova Kompon I td	
	Kompan Ltd	Company and the second s
Surface Type:	Bark Mulch	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	1	
Finding 1		
T1 1 10 1 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1		



6 - Low Risk		
Item: Manufacturer: Surface Type: Item Quantity: Equipment Compliance: Surface Area Compliance:	Single Point Swing - Type 3 Monster Play Systems Bark Mulch 1 No Yes	
Total Findings:	4	and the second second
Finding 1		Finding 2
	naged in places - Monitor for repair or replace as required	The connecting links are in excess of 8.6mm and less than 12mm and fail the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1; clause 4.2.13, Chains - Monitor - No remedial work recommended
Finding 3		Finding 4
There is some notable evide any further deterioration and	nce of chain wear - Monitor for replace when 40% worn	The connecting lugs are showing signs of wear - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required

6 - Low Risk		
Item: Manufacturer: Surface Type: Item Quantity:	See Saw Wicksteed Playgrounds Grass 1	
Equipment Compliance: Surface Area Compliance:	Yes Yes	
Total Findings:	2	
Finding 1		Finding 2
There is some graffiti presen	t - Remove the graffiti	There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment - Clean and treat appropriately



Item:	Tyre Trail	TT TT
Manufacturer:	Not Identified	
Surface Type:	Bark Mulch	
Item Quantity:	1	
Equipment Compliance:	Yes	
Surface Area Compliance:	Yes	
Total Findings:	1	



## **Findings information**





### 8 - Low Risk (Finding 2)



Finding: The grass mats are silted up, the soil is compacted Action: Reinstate as required and the area will become very slippery when the soil is wet.

8 - Low Ris	k (Finding 1)		
ltem: Manufacturer:	Gates - Gate Not Identified	Risk Level: Surface:	L - Low Risk Concrete
Eindings These	The openings that are less than 12mm that		possible a 12mm gap should be maintained

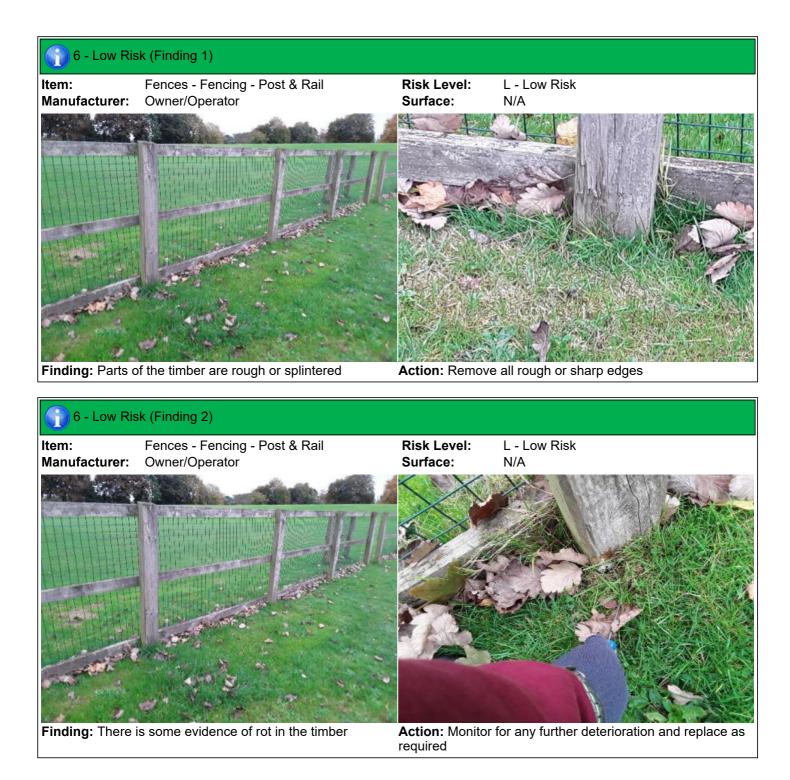
could trap or crush fingers

Finding: There are openings that are less than 12mm that Action: Where possible a 12mm gap should be maintained on both sides or between the gate leafs



5 - Very Lo	w Risk (Finding 2)			
ltem: Manufacturer:	Gates - Gate Not Identified	Risk Level: Surface:	V - Very Low Risk Concrete	
Finding: The ga	te is snagging on the surrounding surface		ut remedial works to ensure the gate closes	
preventing it from	n closing correctly	correctly	at remedial works to ensure the gate closes	
6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)				
6 - Low Ris Item: Manufacturer:	s <mark>k (Finding 1)</mark> Fences - Fencing - Timber Not Identified	Risk Level: Surface:	L - Low Risk N/A	
Item:	Fences - Fencing - Timber			











## 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1) Activity Equipment - Playhouse **Risk Level:** L - Low Risk Item: Kompan Ltd Surface: Manufacturer: Grass Finding: The area around the item has eroded and may Action: Reinstate eroded area become slippery 4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 2) V - Very Low Risk Item: Activity Equipment - Playhouse Risk Level: Manufacturer: Kompan Ltd Surface: Grass

**Finding:** There is/are bolt cap covers missing or damaged **Action:** Replace missing or damaged bolt cap covers on the item

1.



### 5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1)



**Finding:** There is/are finger entrapment/s adjacent to the slide entry and the item fails to meet the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 4.2.7.6 Entrapment of fingers

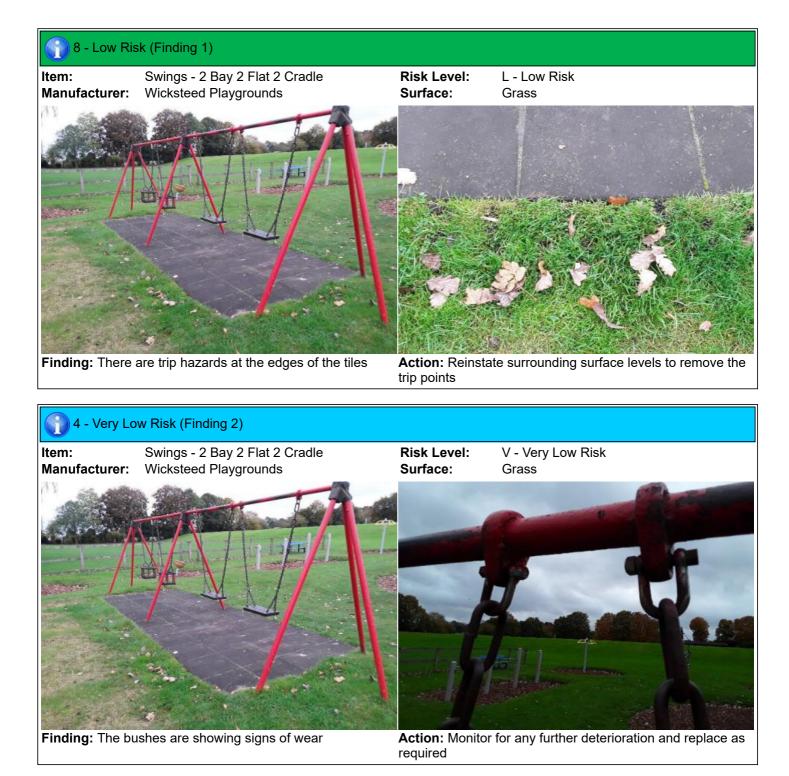
### 6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)



**Finding:** There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment

Action: Clean and treat appropriately







### 6 - Low Risk (Finding 3)



Finding: The paint is flaking off the metalwork

Action: Rub down and re-paint



**Finding:** The chain openings are in excess of the 8.6mm as **Action:** Monitor - No remedial work recommended recommended by BS EN 1176



## 6 - Low Risk (Finding 5) Swings - 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle **Risk Level:** L - Low Risk Item: Wicksteed Playgrounds Surface: Manufacturer: Grass Finding: There is some notable evidence of chain wear Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace when 40% worn 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1) Item: Activity Equipment - Climbing Frame Risk Level: L - Low Risk Manufacturer: S M P (Playgrounds Ltd) Surface: Grass Matrix Tiles Finding: The ropes/nets are worn/damaged in places Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair or

replace as required



### 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)



### 😭 5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 2)

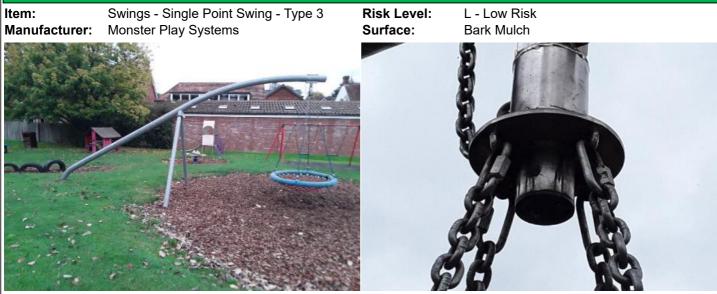


**Finding:** The connecting links are in excess of 8.6mm and less than 12mm and fail the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1; clause 4.2.13, Chains

Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended



### 6 - Low Risk (Finding 3)



Finding: There is some notable evidence of chain wear

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace when 40% worn

### 6 - Low Risk (Finding 4)



Finding: The connecting lugs are showing signs of wear

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required



## 2 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1) V - Very Low Risk Rocking Equipment - See Saw **Risk Level:** Item: Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds Surface: Grass Action: Remove the graffiti Finding: There is some graffiti present 6 - Low Risk (Finding 2) Rocking Equipment - See Saw Risk Level: L - Low Risk Item: Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds Surface: Grass Action: Clean and treat appropriately

Finding: There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment