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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Site / Area: |       | Date of Assessment |       | Risk Assessment # | **006RA** |
| Completed by (name) |       | Signature |       |
| In Consultation with: |       | Signature |       |
| Identify / describe activity, equipment, area or event you are assessing: | **Playgrounds & Nature Play** |
| Authorised by: |       | Signature: |       | Date: |       |
| **In conjunction with this risk assessment, training / education and development of a relevant SOP may be required.** |

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| **Step 1:** **Identify the hazard/s / Impact:**What do you believe are the hazards?What could happen? | **Step 2: Assess the potential risks:**What do you believe are the risks?How could this happen? | **Step 3: Reducing the risk:**Template only MUST modify to site conditionsWhat do you believe can be done to reduce the risk?Controls |
| **Planning & Design*** Lack of planning and design considerations can lead to a range of future and ongoing issues
 | * Increased costs
* Increased ongoing maintenance
* Reduced lifespan of equipment
* Unsafe equipment
* Abrasions
* Bruising
* Sprains
* Contusions
* Broken bones
* Dental avulsion
* Cuts and lacerations
 | * Shade is incorporated into the design.
* Cost & educational benefits of wood vs steel are considered in both the short and long term, including maintenance costs.
* New playgrounds have a post installation comprehensive assessment completed prior to students using the playground.
* Relevant staff have completed the Playground Inspection Training course as detailed in the Catholic Education SA Training Needs Analysis ([CESA TNA](https://www.csaim.org.au/document/EdTNA)) or equivalent.
* The following guides are utilsed as part of the planning & design for playgrounds:

[Planning & Design Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-Planning-and-Design-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf)[Playground Research Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-The-Importance-of-Research-in-Playground-Development-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf) [Playground Safety Management System Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-Playground-Safety-Management-Systems-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf)  |
| **Gravity*** Safe Fall Zone (the area beneath and around the playground equipment where a student might land if they fall. The size of the fall zone will depend on the height of the equipment and its use)
 | * Abrasions
* Bruising
* Sprains
* Contusions
* Broken bones
* Dental avulsion
* Cuts and lacerations
 | * Clear fall zones are maintained around equipment where a student can fall (fall zones must remain clear of objects such as fences, seating, pathways, rocks and trees etc.).

[Impact Areas Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-Impact-Areas-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf) |
| **Gravity*** Surfacing (areas beneath and around playground equipment where there is a potential of a fall requires impact absorbing materials that are maintained)
 | * Abrasions
* Bruising
* Sprains
* Contusions
* Broken bones
* Dental avulsion
* Cuts and lacerations
 | * Soft fall is installed at 300mm minumum for a new playground and then maintained at a minimum of 200mm. Higher use areas may require a greater depth to assist with ongoingmanagement.
* Soft fall is maintained & inspected on a regular basis (e.g. raked frequently, depth checked) to ensure surfacing has not displaced significantly, especially in fall zones.
* Synthetic surfaces (rubber matting) (and their installation) are maintained and meet Australian Standards (4685 & 4422).
* Daily or weekly inspections are completed as per the sites maintenance plan.
* Quarterly (operational) inspections are completed.
* Yearly comprehensive inspections are completed.

[Playground Surfacing Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-Playground-Surfacing-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf) |
| **Machinery & Equipment** * Poorly Maintained Equipment
 | * Abrasions
* Bruising
* Sprains
* Contusions
* Broken bones
* Dental avulsion
* Cuts and lacerations
 | * Painted surfaces to be maintained to prevent flaking paint, corrosion and deterioration.
* Comprehensive maintenance program implemented for each playground area. The program will be dependant on whether wood or steel or a combination is in use.
* Repairs and replacement of equipment parts are completed following the manufacturer’s instructions. All records of all maintenance, inspections and repairs are retained, including any checklists used.
* Daily or weekly inspections are completed as per the sites maintenance plan - check for excesssive wear, foreign objects etc.
* Quarterly (operational) inspections are completed.
* Yearly comprehensive inspections are completed.

[Playground Safety Management System Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-Playground-Safety-Management-Systems-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf) |
| **Machinery & Equipment*** Areas of Entrapment
 | * Abrasions
* Bruising
* Sprains
* Contusions
* Broken bones
* Dental avulsion
* Cuts and lacerations
 | * Equipment has been designed and built so that students head, neck, hair,limbs or fingersetc*.* cannot become trapped.
* Play area equipment meets Australian Standards (4685).
* Daily or weekly inspections are completed as per the sites maintenance plan.
* Quarterly (operational) inspections are completed.
* Yearly comprehensive inspections are completed.

[Entrapment Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-Entrapment-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf) |
| **Machinery & Equipment** * Tree roots, edging
* Sharp edges, rocks
* Nature Play
 | * Abrasions
* Bruising
* Sprains
* Contusions
* Broken bones
* Dental avulsion
* Cuts and lacerations
 | * Inspections are conducted regularly to ensure no trip hazards, no objects placed in areas that shouldn’t be present.
* Ensure that any concrete footings for the playground equipment are at least 200mm below ground level (if chamfered) or 400mm (if not) and covered over.
* Edges of rocks have been chamfered, smoothed off.
* Daily or weekly inspections are completed as per the sites maintenance plan.
* Quarterly (operational) inspections are completed.
* Yearly comprehensive inspections are completed.

[Natural Playspaces Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-Natural-Playspaces-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf) |
| **Psychological*** No immediate access to phone or radios in the event of an emergency
 | * Distress and anxiety for student and staff due to delayed assistance
 | * Staff are encouraged to take mobile phones with them when on yard duty.
* Two-way radios could also be considered.
 |
| **Extreme Temperatures*** Exposure to Heat / UV
 | * Sunburn
* Heat stress
 | * Shade sails or permanent structures installed and these are a minimum of 1500mm above non-accessible parts and 2500mm above accessible parts of the playground.
* Staff & students reminded to wear hats and apply sunscreen when outdoors.
* Equipment isolated from use where no other controls are viable.
* Daily or weekly inspections are completed as per the sites maintenance plan.
* Quarterly (operational) inspections are completed.
* Yearly comprehensive inspections are completed.

[Shade in Playspaces Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Kidsafe-SA-Shade-in-Playspace-Info-Sheet-2022.pdf) |
| **Other*** Lack of Supervision
 | * Injuries
* Distress
 | * Play area has been designed to allow visualisation of students throughout the playground area, with visual barriers minimised as much as possible.
* Provide active supervision to prevent injuries by ensuring students use playground equipment properly and don’t engage in unsafe behaviour.
* Staff to have effective means of communication when supervising to ensure ready access to assistance if required.
* Minimise number of students on playground to reasonable numbers appropriate to the playground and level of supervision.
 |
| **Other** | *
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| **Review hazard / risk assessment if task or circumstances change & at intervals appropriate to the level of risk (minimum 5 years)** |
| **Step 4: Monitor & Review:** |
| Were the controls effective? | Were there any unforeseen hazards / incidents? | New controls |
| Yes | [ ]  | No | [ ]  | Yes | [ ]  | No | [ ]  |  |
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