

PLAY AREA SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

For Waldringfield PC

On 7th September 2026

Play Area, School Road, Waldringfield



An independent safety assessment of the playground and equipment by

David Bracey ILAM Dip.

David Bracey Play Safety Inspections

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About David Bracey – Independent Playground Inspector

David Bracey has been carrying out professional playground, leisure, and water inspections since 2004, successfully inspecting several thousand sites across the UK. With over thirty years of prior experience in Local Government — covering Parks, Playgrounds, Leisure, and Environmental Management — David brings a depth of expertise and practical knowledge to every inspection.

From 2004 to 2011, David worked as a Play Inspector for RoSPA before establishing his own independent inspection service. His company provides convenient, timely, and fully independent inspections, ensuring impartial reports and a balanced, sensible approach. With no ties to any manufacturer or installer, every inspection is guaranteed to be unbiased and solely focused on the safety of the facility.

David is qualified to the **RPII Annual Inspector Standard** — the highest level of certification in the field. He has also passed a **Criminal Disclosure Check** and holds full **Professional Indemnity** and **Public Liability Insurance**, giving clients complete peace of mind.

The following forms an integral part of the inspection report

Reading it may save you unnecessary expenditure

1. The equipment has been assessed, as relevant, in accordance with BS EN 1176: "Playground Equipment", BS EN 15312 (Sports Areas) and BS EN 14974 (Wheeled Sports) and BS EN 16630 (Outdoor Gym Equipment).

The BS EN1176 was published on 1 January 1999 when existing standards were withdrawn. There are a number of areas where existing equipment may fail the standard. **This does not mean that equipment has suddenly become dangerous or that remedial action is required. Generally equipment that fails BS EN 1176 but passed the previous standard BS 5696 at time of installation should be considered safe (excluding any maintenance issues).**

Where there is a compliance failure, this is briefly noted and a risk assessment made of the failure. **Where we believe action is required this is indicated in more detail and identified as a medium or high risk.** (See paragraph 13). Where no action is indicated, in our opinion there is no practical economic action that can be taken and the risks do not justify removal of the item.

Low risk items should be corrected if possible or monitored if it is recommended in the report and if accidents occur, remedial action will be required (There is no such thing as NO risk).

Standard compliance is not mandatory or retrospective.

2. The inspections cover:

Site safety

Suitability and conditions of ancillary items

Standard compliance, suitability and condition of equipment

Dimensional compliance, suitability and condition of surfacing

The report indicates the condition of the play area at the time of inspection. Subsequent events such as weather conditions, usage, or vandalism etc. may affect the condition of the play area. Routine inspections should be undertaken by the operator to monitor the effects of these.

3. Standard assessment is undertaken where appraisal may be made without dismantling or destruction.
4. The inspections are non-dismantling inspections. Where it is felt that removal of parts for assessment is required, this will be indicated. (See paragraph 13). It is not possible to check for internal corrosion/rot without dismantling the equipment.
5. Surfacing has been assessed solely in terms of the area covered and its condition or security.
6. Where there is open water within easy walking distance of the play area it is recommended that a water safety report be commissioned (David Bracey Play Safety Inspections can undertake this).
7. Where there are trees within falling distance of the play area it is recommended that a report on the integrity of the tree is obtained from a competent arboricultural expert (see www.trees.org.uk for list of qualified consultants). It is also recommended that arrangements should be in place to close the play area in times of high winds.
8. Where no protective surface is provided with items which have a fall height in excess of 600mm, the installation of a protective surface should be considered. Such surfacing is not mandatory but does represent good practice. It should be noted that BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177 allow well-maintained grass for fall heights of up to 1500mm.

9. Surfacing up to a fall height of 600mm does not require testing for impact absorbency.
10. In addition to inspecting the equipment and surfacing, the inspection also looked at ancillary items and general design features where relevant to safety.
11. Wear to shackle pins and bushes on swings is difficult to detect on non-dismantling inspections. Checks are made to identify excessive movement in the 'D' shackle and where dry bearings are obvious. Whilst this action can often identify serious defects it does not preclude the possibility of shackle pin failure in rare circumstances. It is recommended that random inspection by removal of the 'D' shackle and pin is carried out as a regular maintenance feature in the site owner's work programme.
12. It should be noted that this is a safety report, not a standard compliance report, and compliance/non compliance with EN1176 is normally indicated. However failures may not be mentioned where they are very minor, or of a technical nature, and have no noticeable effect on safety.
13. A risk assessment of faults and Standard failures is given in terms of low, medium and high. **As a general principal items marked as "low" usually only require monitoring, although remedial work can be carried out as part of the sites general maintenance programme. Items marked as "medium" require appropriate action within resources and individual site assessment. Items marked as "high" require urgent action.** In rare cases where an item is likely to result in major injury or death, the operator or appropriate representative will be notified from the site by telephone. This will be indicated on the report.
14. There can be problems with assessing ground decay where synthetic surfaces have been installed. Similar problems may occur with sub-surface degradation. While care is taken to check ground decay and corrosion in supports, this cannot be done fully without removal and destruction of the surface.

15. In order to provide economic reports, standard wording is used for most common standard/maintenance failures. The inspector also works using previous year's reports (where available).

This may mean that where there have been few changes to the site, the current report may be similar to the previous year's report.

16. The Equality Act 2010 (which superseded the Disability Discrimination Act) applies to play areas. There is a duty, where practicable, to make reasonable provision for equal opportunities for disabled people. David Bracey Play Safety Inspections can advise on this, and can undertake a Equality Act Assessment of play areas.
17. The Management of Health and Safety Regulations require a risk assessment of the play area for risks to users. This is a highly specialised subject. A risk assessment is included in the report, although it is normally recommended that such formal risk assessments be undertaken every 4-5 years.



The Register of Play Inspectors International (RPiI) is the official UK body for accrediting and certifying play inspectors.

Inspection Scope for RPiI Annual Inspectors

This document outlines the RPiI scope for inspections undertaken by the Inspectors listed as Indoor and Outdoor Annual Inspectors (where relevant) on the RPiI Register of Inspectors when undertaking inspections.

Inspections are undertaken with reference to the standards listed in this preamble only; where no date for the standard is given it will be the standard that is current at the time of inspection except 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, unless they are also explicitly listed here. For the avoidance of doubt, references to compliance relate only to those aspects that can be assessed visually or manually, within the limitations of a non-dismantling, non-destructive inspection, and without the use of specialist equipment.

The following standards define the technical framework within which inspections are carried out; not all requirements within these standards can be verified during an inspection. The following standards are relevant to all installations of equipment that are publicly accessible to users; this includes 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, excluding ancillary items).

In the United Kingdom the National Foreword forms an important part to the understanding and implementation of the recommendations set out in this document. It clarifies the application of the document within the UK as best practice guidance, as the document has been used since its initial publication. Therefore, in the UK this standard (BS EN 1176 – Part 7) contains no requirements and needs to be read and implemented as guidance, with the use of the term 'shall' therefore becoming a recommendation, as in the term 'should'.

Domestic play equipment falls outside of the scope of BS EN 1176 and has its own standards (BS EN 71 series – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report; any comments will be made using the principles of BS EN 1176 as guidance only, rather than as a formal assessment of compliance.

When water play items, including spray parks, are inspected any comments concerning compliance within the inspection will refer to EN 1176. We have not assessed these against the requirements of EN 17232 (Water play equipment and features).

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 these 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 (that area which is obviously part of the playground), nominally up to three metres around, the fence line if closer, or other areas as agreed.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to cleanliness, equipment ground clearances, ground surface finishes, exposed foundations, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear (of moving parts) structural integrity, wear and vandalism.

Routine visual inspections relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, litter, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).

All inspections are non-dismantling, non-destructive and do not include any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a basic manual stability check appropriate to a visual inspection 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 reasonably accessible equipment and will assess all reasonably accessible parts above the standing surface. For the purposes of this inspection, “reasonably accessible” means accessible without the use of specialist access equipment, tools, or unsafe working practices. 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. (Note: Ancillary items are not included in the specific equipment-type parts of the EN 1176 series; hence they are not assessed for compliance with EN 1176 series and are subject to a general safety assessment).

The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area.

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 the impact attenuating properties of any surfaces; the identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment

other than by an external inspection; the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is beneath the playing surface (loose-fill materials may be moved to expose foundations); 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 water supplies and/or water features and/or any associated computerised systems (including carrying out any programming); where planting or trees are mentioned in the report no 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. 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 always seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

Responsibility of the Owner/Operator

The owner/operator has overall responsibility for the safety, management, and ongoing maintenance of the play equipment and surrounding area. This includes ensuring that equipment is appropriately installed, inspected, maintained, repaired, and managed in accordance with the relevant standards, manufacturer guidance, and applicable legislation.

Inspections undertaken by RPII Annual Inspectors contribute to the owner/operator's discharge of these responsibilities but do not replace the requirement for the owner/operator to carry out suitable and

sufficient risk assessments, routine monitoring, and maintenance, or to act on identified defects and recommendations. Responsibility for initiating or undertaking any actions arising from this report rests solely with the Client.

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 Inclusion or exclusion within this table does not imply an exhaustive assessment; all inspections and checks are subject to the limitations described within this methodology. Refer to relevant standards for full text.	Annual Main	RPII Annual/ Post Installation Inspection
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of equipment (see note 1)	✓	✓[1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 1)	✓	✓[1]
6.1 d) Overall levels of safety of playing surfaces (see note 2)	✓	✓[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	✓	✓
6.1 d) Presence of rot, decay or corrosion (see note 1)	✓	✓[1]
6.1 d) Assessment of repairs made or added or replaced components (see note 4)	✓	✓[4]
6.1 d) Excavation or dismantling/additional measures	✓	✗
6.2.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 5)	✓	✓[5]
6.2.1 Inspection of one post equipment (see note 1)	✓	✓[1]
6.2.4 Undertaking the Operators inspection protocol	✓	✗

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 data

it is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall inspection responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standards. RPII Annual Inspectors may, where readily available, refer to manufacturer installation instructions for general context, but do not check against these in full on any item as inspections are focused on compliance with relevant standards and maintenance defects; the responsibility for ensuring that installation instructions are adhered to lies with the owner and the installer.

[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.

Weather conditions are recorded to assess immediate safety risks, note environmental impact on play equipment/surfaces, and provide context for inspection findings.

1. Surface Safety

- Wet, icy, or snowy surfaces increase slip and fall risks.
- Loose-fill surfacing (woodchips, sand, rubber mulch) can be compacted or displaced by rain or wind.

2. Equipment Temperature

- Metal or plastic equipment can become dangerously hot in strong sun.
- Freezing conditions can make equipment brittle and prone to cracking.

3. Visibility & Supervision

- Fog, rain, or low light reduces visibility, affecting supervision safety.

Maintenance & Condition of Equipment

1. Weather Related Wear

- Rain and moisture accelerate rusting, rot, and corrosion.
- Strong winds or storms may loosen fixings or damage shade structures.

2. Inspection Accuracy

- Wet or frosty conditions may temporarily hide cracks, splinters, or sharp edges.
- Certain issues (like drainage problems) are only visible in wet weather.

Reporting & Documentation

1. Context for Findings

- Notes explain why certain hazards were or weren't visible.
- Weather helps justify temporary closures (e.g., playground taped off after a storm).

2. Patterns & Long - Term Records

- Tracking weather at inspection helps identify recurring issues (e.g., puddling after rain, slippery moss growth, or season).

Maintenance

Maintenance for play areas is crucial for ensuring the safety and well-being of children, meeting legal and ethical obligations, protecting investment in equipment, and promoting social and community benefits. Regular inspections and upkeep prevent accidents and maintain a welcoming, hygienic environment.

Safety and legal compliance

Ensuring the safety of playgrounds is the primary reason for regular maintenance in the UK.

- **Reduces injuries:** Regular checks identify and fix hazards before they cause harm. Issues like broken equipment, loose bolts, worn ropes, and uneven surfaces can lead to injuries, from minor scrapes to broken bones.
- **Protects against liability:** Although UK law does not mandate a specific inspection regime, playground operators, such as local councils and schools, have a legal duty of care to provide a safe environment. Following maintenance guidelines and keeping detailed records is vital to prove due diligence in the event of an accident.
- **Adheres to safety standards:** While not legally required, adherence to British and European Standards (BS EN 1176 and BS EN 1177) is strongly recommended as good practice for safety. These standards cover equipment and safety surfacing and are checked during professional annual inspections.

Economic advantages

Regular maintenance is a cost-effective strategy that protects a significant financial investment.

- **Prolongs equipment lifespan:** Proactive maintenance prevents small problems, such as wear and tear or minor damage, from escalating into major, expensive issues. This extends the usable life of the equipment and delays costly replacements.

- **Saves money on repairs:** By catching and addressing issues early, managers avoid the larger costs associated with extensive repairs or full equipment replacement that result from long-term neglect.
- **Reduces waste:** Extending the life of equipment is also a sustainable practice that reduces unnecessary waste.

Social and community benefits

Well-maintained play areas offer a range of social benefits that support both children and the wider community.

- **Encourages physical activity:** A clean, safe, and functional playground is more inviting, encouraging children to play outdoors. This helps combat sedentary lifestyles and obesity while developing physical skills.
- **Promotes mental and social development:** Playgrounds are hubs for social interaction where children learn to cooperate, share, and solve problems. A high-quality play environment supports healthy brain development, stress relief, and builds resilience.
- **Fosters community trust:** A well-cared-for playground demonstrates to parents, carers, and residents that their local council or school is committed to community well-being. A run-down or unsafe play area can erode public trust and result in fewer people using the facility.
- **Creates a welcoming environment:** A tidy, functional, and visually appealing play area, free from litter and vandalism, makes the space more enjoyable for everyone and promotes a sense of community pride.

Name of site: Play Area, School Road, Waldringfield
Client: Waldringfield PC
Date: 7th September 2026
Inspector: David Bracey
Weather: Sunny and Dry

Site Comments

Well equipped play area in centre of village. The playground is in **good** condition. Maintenance is required as noted in report.

Timber Play Equipment

It has been noticed recently by Rpii inspectors, that timber play equipment in the UK, is increasingly suffering from fungal and rot attack possibly due to environmental changes such as mild and wet weather conditions.

Inspectors and clients have seen timber posts snap off, where no external rot has been detected visually or by resonance testing. This is a worrying situation.

It is therefore advised that all clients check all wooden play equipment regularly other than the Annual Inspection. Apart from probing with a thin blade, to see if water egress is found or softness in the timber, a forceful push on the timber may be needed to test the soundness of the item.

Site and Ancillary Items

The following items have been inspected and found to be in good order:

Cleanliness

Minimum Space – equipment

Traffic Clashes – users

Signs – ‘No dogs allowed; x 5, No Cycling, Local sign,





East Suffolk 'Friendship' sign x 2



Fence – Chan-link (1100mm/1600mm)





Timber Picnic Table



Timber Seat



Recycled Plastic Seats x 2



General Surface – Grass

Litter Bins x 3



Self Closer Gates x 3



Work is required on the following:

Planting – Recommend cut back from all seats and Space Net safety surface – Low to Medium risk.





Mature trees on Play Areas (with Recommendations in **bold** text for this item)



Mature trees offer numerous benefits to play areas, including shade, beauty, and opportunities for creative play. However, they also require careful management to mitigate risks, such as falling branches and root damage.

Risks and hazards:

Falling branches and debris: Dead or weakened branches can fall unexpectedly, especially during high winds or storms.

Exposed roots: As trees mature, their roots can grow and become exposed, creating tripping hazards on pathways or near equipment.

Poor visibility: Dense tree canopies or low-hanging branches can obstruct sightlines for parents and supervisors, creating potential blind spots.

Diseased trees: Pests and diseases can weaken a tree's structure, increasing its risk of collapse. Fungi growing on tree parts can be a sign of decay.

Recommend: Regular professional inspections: Arrange for a qualified arborist to perform annual risk assessments, especially before and after severe weather.

Strategic pruning: Use specific pruning techniques to manage tree health and minimize risk:

Crown lifting: Raise the lower branches to keep them clear of equipment and improve visibility.

Crown thinning: Remove excess branches to reduce wind resistance and allow more light through.

Deadwood removal: Prune out any dead, diseased, or broken branches promptly.

Root protection: Install protective barriers or use mulched beds around the base of trees to prevent damage and reduce tripping hazards.

Proper planting and design: When developing new play areas, position trees wisely, away from high-traffic zones and equipment. Use non-toxic species and space them appropriately.

Recommend discourage (by signage) use of the play area with Overhead trees in strong winds.

Summer Branch Drop (SBD):

A phenomenon where mature, healthy-looking trees unexpectedly shed large limbs, often after a period of hot, dry weather followed by heavy rain.

Some theories suggest a form of self-amputation in response to drought stress.

Primarily affects mature and over-mature hardwood trees, such as oak, beech, and sweet chestnut.

Often long and heavy branches are affected, sometimes breaking at a point far from a fork.

While the risk is low and precautions are often not considered necessary, public awareness has increased following notable incidents recently possibly due to current weather patterns.

Consider having trees that are suspected to be vulnerable, inspected by a qualified arborist. They can assess for any potential defects or hazards.

Redundant sign – Faded – Recommend remove/replace.



PLAY EQUIPMENT

Item: Small Goals x 2 – Jacobs and Son



EN1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Grass

EN1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Timber Blocks – Fenland Leisure



EN1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Suitably well maintained grass and topsoil underneath, with at least 150mm of soil beneath is acceptable to EN1176 for items with a fall height of up to 1500mm subject to a risk assessment.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Type 1 Rocker - Seesaw – G L Jones



EN1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Tiles

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided

Item: 1 Bay 2 Flat Seat Swing (2750mm) – Playquip



EN1176 Compliance

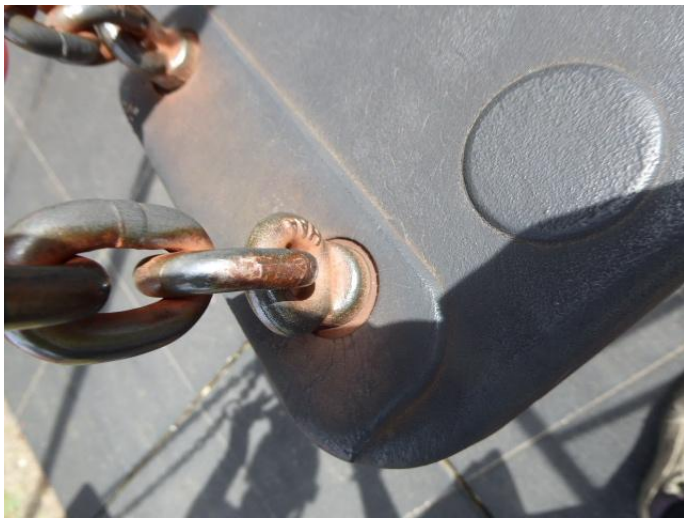
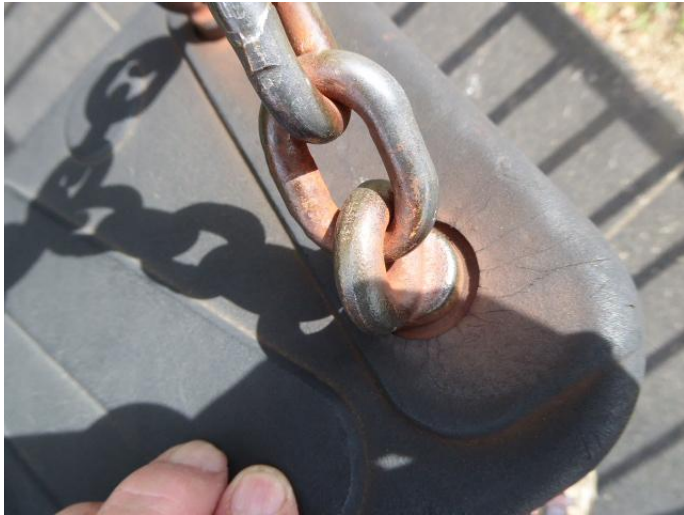
The item fails to meet the requirements of EN1176 in the following respects:

EN1176 NEW RULING - Swing Fences/Barriers should be at least 1500mm from the edges of the swing seat to the sides, and from the edge of the impact area. There is a risk that onlookers leaning on the barrier may encroach into the swing arch. This is however, a low risk finding and no remedial action is recommended. - Monitor - Low risk.



Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend tighten loose seat bolts x 4 – Low risk.





Surfacing: Tiles

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend re-glue and fill gaps and joints where surface is lifting and gaps appearing. Leaving the gaps may cause trip hazards and allow weeds to grow and push up the surface further - Low risk.

N.B. Wet-pour can be used to fill gaps, repair kits are available. Or the entire surface can be recovered by such surfaces as Play Carpet.



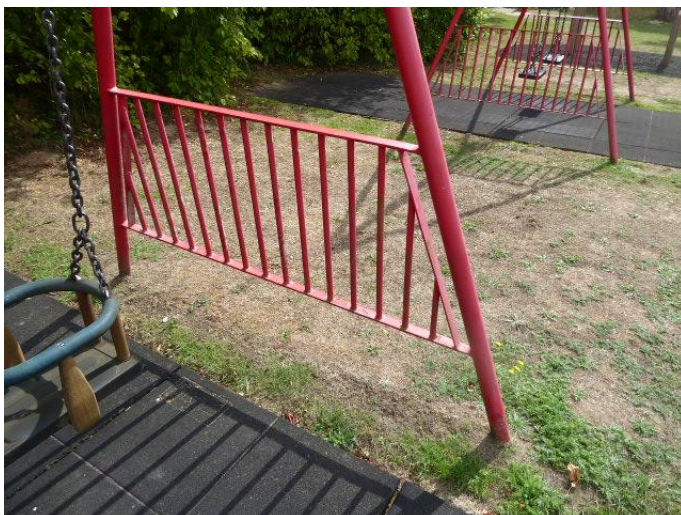
Item: 1 Bay 2 Cradle Seat Swing (2750mm) – Playquip



EN1176 Compliance

The item fails to meet the requirements of EN1176 in the following respects:

EN1176 NEW RULING - Swing Fences/Barriers should be at least 1500mm from the edges of the swing seat to the sides, and from the edge of the impact area. There is a risk that onlookers leaning on the barrier may encroach into the swing arch. This is however, a low risk finding and no remedial action is recommended. - Monitor - Low risk.



Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to

inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Tiles

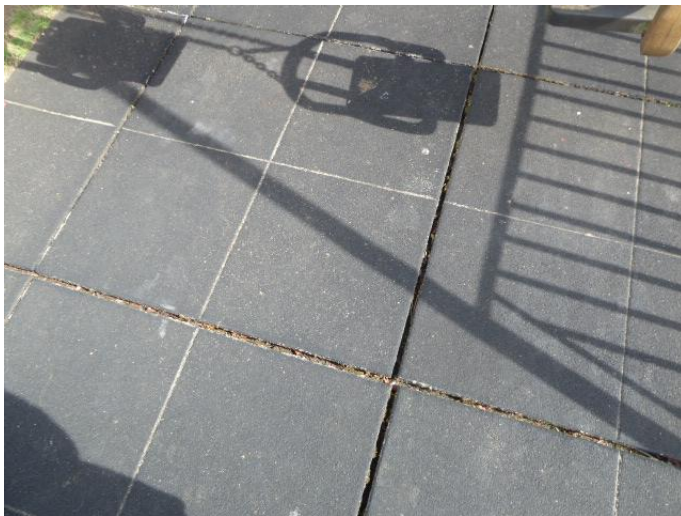
EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend re-glue and fill gaps and joints where surface is lifting and gaps appearing. Leaving the gaps may cause trip hazards and allow weeds to grow and push up the surface further - Low risk.

N.B. Wet-pour can be used to fill gaps, repair kits are available. Or the entire surface can be recovered by such surfaces as Play Carpet.



Item: Train – Fenland Leisure



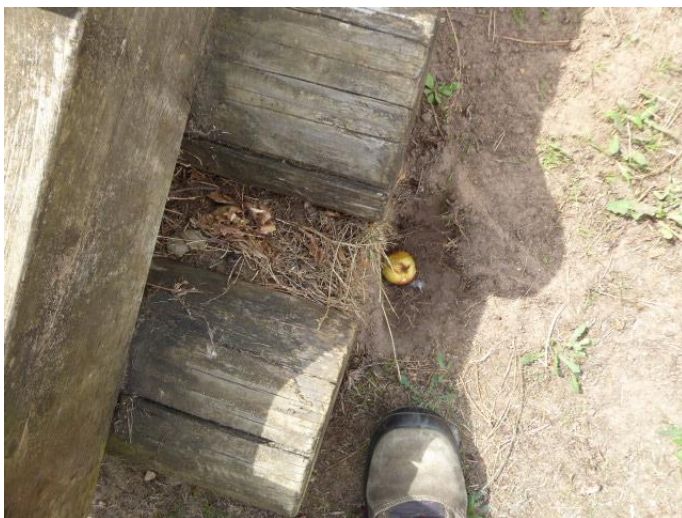
EN1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend replace rotten sections – Low to Medium risk.





Surfacing: Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Suitably well maintained grass and topsoil underneath, with at least 150mm of soil beneath is acceptable to EN1176 for items with a fall height of up to 1500mm subject to a risk assessment.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Type B Roundabout – Action Play and Leisure (?)



EN1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Wet-Pour

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Basket Swing – Action Play and Leisure (?)



EN1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Wet-Pour

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Space Net – Action Play and Leisure (?)



EN1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Bonded Rubber Mulch

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Parallel Bars – Fenland Leisure



EN16630 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN16630 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

No remedial maintenance work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Surfacing: Bonded Rubber Mulch

EN 16630 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 16630.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

The surfacing is in a satisfactory condition and no work is required at this time. Continue to inspect and maintain as normal and according to manufacturer's instructions where provided.

Item: Toddler Multiplay Cluster – Action Play and Leisure



EN1176 Compliance

The item meets the requirements of EN1176 where this may be tested on site without dismantling or destruction.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend tighten loose Climbing Blocks x 3 – Low to Medium risk.





Surfacing: Matting/Grass

EN 1176 Compliance

The surfacing meets the dimensional requirements of EN 1176.

Repair / Maintenance recommended

Recommend cover exposed concrete to eliminate falling hazards (at wigwam) – Medium risk.



Recommend remove exposed concrete and timber post (on mound) to eliminate trip hazards – Low to Medium risk.





Recommend secure loose matting to eliminate trip hazards – Low to Medium risk.

Design fault - This type of safety surface should have grass present to provide adequate protection in user falls, as the grass roots absorb the impact of any falls. The surface therefore does not give the same protection as with grass and the risk of damage to users in falls is increased.

In the first instance it is recommended to (when conditions allow) spread seed and soil mix over the worn areas - if this fails to eliminate surface wear (grass) and matting coming loose, serious consideration should be given to replacing this surface with a non-wearing type of safety surface such as Bonded Rubber Crumb, Wet Pour or Play Carpet - Low to Medium risk.

Due to severe drought conditions becoming more frequent this type of surface may not be the most appropriate in future.





Risk Assessment Evaluation

Client: Waldringfield PC

Site: Play Area, School Road, Waldringfield

Date: 7th September 2026

Type: Age 3 – 15 years

Risk Score	Risk Categories
1 - 3	Very Low Risk - Monitor
4 - 7	Low Risk – Monitor and take reasonable action if possible
8 - 12	Medium Risk – Take action to reduce if possible, or available
13 - 20	High Risk – Take Action immediately and access control measures
21 +	Unacceptable Risk – Remove or immobilise before taking immediate action and assessment of control measures

Ancillary Items and Environmental or Other Hazards

Ancillary Items	Risk Score	Comments	Action or Control
General Surface - Grass	3		Monitor
Signs	3		See Report
Timber Seat	3		Monitor
Recycled Plastic Seats x 2	3		Monitor
Timber Picnic Bench	3		Monitor
Chain-link	3		Monitor
Planting	7		See Report
Mature Trees	7		See Report
Self Closer Gates x 3	3		Monitor

Environmental Hazards	Risk Score	Action, Comment or Control Recommended
Free/Fall Space	2	Monitor
Traffic Clashes	3	Monitor
Design Defects	3	Monitor
Cleanliness	3	Monitor

Equipment and Surfacing

Equipment Items	Surface	Risk Score	Action, Control or Comments
Goals x 2	Grass	3	Monitor
Timber Blocks	Grass	3	Monitor
Train	Grass	7	See Report
Seesaw	Tiles	4	Monitor
Roundabout	Wet-Pour	4	Monitor
Cradle Seat Swing	Tiles	6	See Report
Flat Seat Swing	Tiles	6	See Report
Parallel Bars	Bonded Rubber Mulch	4	Monitor
Basket Swing	Bonded Rubber Mulch	5	Monitor
Space Net	Bonded Rubber Mulch	5	Monitor
Toddler Multi Play Cluster	Matting/ Grass	8	See Report

Risk assessment evaluation should be read in conjunction with Annual or Post Installation reports. Where action or control relates to maintenance, non-compliance or minor defects read Annual Inspection or Post Installation reports for detailed comments. Serious or high risk failures should, however be noted. Failure to comply with the standards will be identified in the reports.

Design, location and physical site factors may determine the overall risk of the site. These may be difficult to change economically, However, where maintenance or control methods are undertaken the site could be reduced to **LOW** Risk subject to a future inspection and reassessment.

ASSESSED LEVEL OF RISK FOR THE PLAYGROUND AT THE TIME OF INSPECTION WAS MEDIUM RISK