



the **play inspection** company

Annual Inspection

Frodsham Town Council

Park Lane

WA6 6RZ



API Associate



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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 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 arboricultural 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)	✓	✓ [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 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 Severity					
			Severity>>					
Likelihood	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)
	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)
			Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High	
			1	2	3	4	5	
			No injury likely e.g. damaged or soiled clothing, minor bruising, grazes	Minor injury, laceration or bruising requiring first aid only	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	
			Severity>>					
<p>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 Severity (3).</p> <p>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.</p>								

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).



Park Lane

Inspection Ref: 1409107

Site Ref: 40454

Inspected: 5-July-2021 - 12:26 by Matt Hall RPII Annual Inspector

Risk Assessment: 10 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:

Generally accessible; an area accessible to most.



i 0 - Risk Assessment not Undertaken

Item: Site General
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: N/A
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

The site is accessible to the public during the COVID 19 pandemic. The government have released guidelines for safely re-opening these types of facilities which is available on the government website. - Ensure there is an appropriate risk assessment in place and review regularly

i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Gate - Combination
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: Grass
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 2

Finding 1

Foliage has encroached on the item - Cut back foliage

Finding 2

The gate is not operating correctly - Take effective action to ensure the gate closes between 4 and 8 seconds



i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Fence - Bow Top
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: N/A
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 2

Finding 1

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

Finding 2

There are a number of loose posts around the fence - Monitor for any further deterioration and reset as required

i 5 - Very Low Risk

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



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

BS EN 1176 Part 7 recommends that signage shall include the site name / address - Provide additional information



i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Bench
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: Grass
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

There are post / end caps missing from the item - Replace missing post caps

i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Litter Bin
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: N/A
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

The lid or door of the litter bin is not secured - Ensure the lid or door is kept locked



i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Wall
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: N/A
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

The brickwork is deteriorating - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required

i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Fence - Bow Top
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: Grass
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 3

Finding 1

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

Finding 2

Shear nuts have not been fully tightened and are still present on fixings - Tighten heads on nuts to shear off and secure

Finding 3

There is some evidence of fire damage to the item - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required



i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Gate - Self Closing
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: Bitmac
Surface Nominal Depth: 2mm
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A
Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

i 10 - Low Risk

Item: 2 Bay 2 Cradle 1 Inclusive Seat
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds
Surface Type: Wet Pour
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: No
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Total Findings: 2



Finding 1

Foliage has encroached on the free space of the item - Cut back foliage ensuring no sharp ends project

Finding 2

Parts of the steel seat frame project outside of the seat and have no impact attenuation properties to protect users passing by or underneath - Refer to the manufacturer for confirmation of design risk assessment



i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Roundabout
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds
Surface Type: Wet Pour
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

i 8 - Low Risk

Item: Multi Play (Toddler)
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds
Surface Type: Wet Pour
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: No
Surface Area Compliance: Yes



Total Findings: 2

Finding 1

The fence forms a hard object within the falling space of the equipment in contravention of the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1 - Monitor - No remedial work recommended

Finding 2

There are projecting bolt thread(s) present - Remove excess thread length and deburr or provide cap



i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Spring Bee
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds
Surface Type: Wet Pour
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

The Handgrips/Footrests rotate and may cause an unexpected movement for the user - Secure Handgrips/Footrests to prevent rotation.

i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Bench
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds
Surface Type: Bitmac
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -



i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Spring See-Saw
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds
Surface Type: Wet Pour
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

The end caps are missing on the Handgrips/Footrests - Replace missing end caps

i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Sign
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator
Surface Type: Grass
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

Signage should be provided for the outdoor fitness equipment in accordance with the requirements of BS EN 16630, key requirements of the sign include, but are not limited to, intended users, medical safety and emergency contact details - Provide appropriate signage



i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Hand Bike
Manufacturer: The Great Outdoor Gym Company
Surface Type: Bitmac
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Cycle
Manufacturer: The Great Outdoor Gym Company
Surface Type: Bitmac
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

Noisy under operation - Rectify



i 6 - Low Risk

Item: Fit Point
Manufacturer: The Great Outdoor Gym Company
Surface Type: Bitmac
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing - Remove weed / vegetation growth

i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Cross Trainer
Manufacturer: The Great Outdoor Gym Company
Surface Type: Bitmac
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

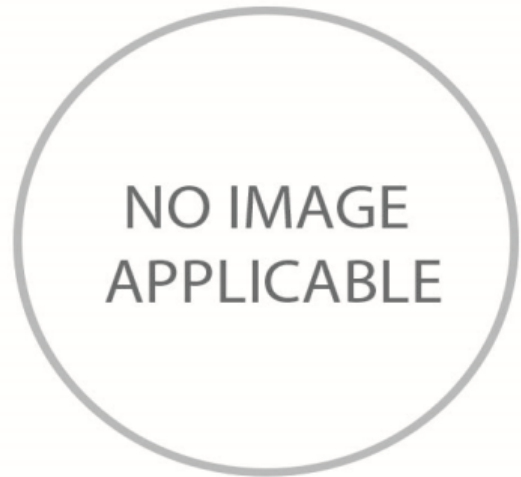


Findings information

0 - Risk Assessment not Undertaken (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Site General
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: N - Risk Assessment not Undertaken
Surface: N/A



Finding: The site is accessible to the public during the COVID 19 pandemic. The government have released guidelines for safely re-opening these types of facilities which is available on the government website.

Action: Ensure there is an appropriate risk assessment in place and review regularly

6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Gates - Gate - Combination
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: Foliage has encroached on the item

Action: Cut back foliage



i 5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Gates - Gate - Combination
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: The gate is not operating correctly

Action: Take effective action to ensure the gate closes between 4 and 8 seconds

i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Fences - Fence - Bow Top
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: N/A



Finding: There is some damage to the fence sections

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required



6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Fences - Fence - Bow Top
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: N/A



Finding: There are a number of loose posts around the fence

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and reset as required

5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Sign
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: N/A



Finding: BS EN 1176 Part 7 recommends that signage shall include the site name / address

Action: Provide additional information



i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Bench
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: There are post / end caps missing from the item

Action: Replace missing post caps

i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Litter Bin
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: N/A



Finding: The lid or door of the litter bin is not secured

Action: Ensure the lid or door is kept locked



i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Wall
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: N/A



Finding: The brickwork is deteriorating

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required



i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Fences - Fence - Bow Top
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: There is some damage to the fence sections

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required

i 4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Fences - Fence - Bow Top
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: Shear nuts have not been fully tightened and are still present on fixings

Action: Tighten heads on nuts to shear off and secure



i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Fences - Fence - Bow Top
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: There is some evidence of fire damage to the item **Action:** Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required

i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Cradle 1 Inclusive Seat
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: Foliage has encroached on the free space of the item **Action:** Cut back foliage ensuring no sharp ends project



i 10 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Cradle 1 Inclusive Seat
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: Parts of the steel seat frame project outside of the seat and have no impact attenuation properties to protect users passing by or underneath

Action: Refer to the manufacturer for confirmation of design risk assessment

i 5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Toddler)
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: The fence forms a hard object within the falling space of the equipment in contravention of the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 1

Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended



i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Toddler)
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: There are projecting bolt thread(s) present

Action: Remove excess thread length and deburr or provide cap

i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Rocking Equipment - Spring Bee
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: The Handgrips/Footrests rotate and may cause an unexpected movement for the user

Action: Secure Handgrips/Footrests to prevent rotation.



i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Rocking Equipment - Spring See-Saw
Manufacturer: Wicksteed Playgrounds

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: The end caps are missing on the Handgrips/Footrests

Action: Replace missing end caps

i 4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Sign
Manufacturer: Owner/Operator

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: Signage should be provided for the outdoor fitness equipment in accordance with the requirements of BS EN 16630, key requirements of the sign include, but are not limited to, intended users, medical safety and emergency contact details

Action: Provide appropriate signage



i 4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Outdoor Fitness Equipment - Cycle
Manufacturer: The Great Outdoor Gym Company

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Bitmac



Finding: Noisy under operation

Action: Rectify

i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Outdoor Fitness Equipment - Fit Point
Manufacturer: The Great Outdoor Gym Company

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Bitmac



Finding: There is weed / vegetation growth on, between, or around the edges of the surfacing

Action: Remove weed / vegetation growth