

Middleton St. George Parish Council Risk Assessment Form

Activity:	Play area re-opening following Covid 19 restrictions	Site:	Station Road Play Area, Middleton St. George
People at Risk:	Staff/Public	Additional Information:	

To determine the risk rating, look at the likelihood and the severity of the outcome if the hazard is realised. Assign the rating Low, Medium or High (L, M, H) based on the risk matrix (prior to any control measures being put in place to reduce the risk). The residual risk involves making two judgements, one on the severity of any possible injury and the other on the likelihood of harm occurring.

Type of Injury	Likely	Possible	Remote
Fatality	High	High	Medium
Serious Injury	High	Medium	Medium
Minor Injury	Medium	Low	Low
No Injury	Low	Low	Low

Risk Evaluation

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
Play equipment and associated surfaces	Parents/guardians/carers and children failing to follow appropriate sanitisation procedure resulting in cross infection with Covid 19 virus	H	Signage to be placed at entrance to the play area advising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hands to be washed prior and after using equipment, either using wash facilities where available or personal hand sanitiser. Parental supervision required for under 16 year olds 	M	

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
Lack of Social distance	Parents/guardians/carers and children failing to follow appropriate social distancing rules resulting in cross infection with Covid 19 virus	H	Signage to be placed at entrance to every play area advising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing of 1m+ to be followed at all times • Parental supervision required for under 16 year olds • Users not to enter play area if showing signs of Covid 19 	M	
	High volume of people within a particular play area	H	Encourage users to visit other play areas if particular play area is busy	M	
Misuse of facilities	ASB within play areas resulting in Covid 19 guidelines not be followed, risking the spread of Covid 19.	H	All misuse of equipment to be reported to the Parish Clerk on the number given on the sign at the entrance to the play area. If users are not following government rules regarding social distancing and sanitisation police to be informed.	M	
Potential overcrowding on equipment	Children and assisting Parents/guardians/carers. Slips, trips, falls, collision and Cross contamination /spread of infection	M	Signs to advise public to avoid when busy. Signs requiring queuing for equipment, parent/carer supervision and social distancing. Promote feedback & incident reporting to the Clerk.	L	Consider ground-markings, one-way flow of play and additional signs promoting social distancing. Signs checked weekly by the Parish Councillor
Virus left on surfaces such as gate latches, tables or seating used by adults & families	Parents/guardians/carers and children Maintenance operatives Cross contamination/spread of infection	M	Signs requesting handwashing & hand sanitation before entering and on leaving. No eating or smoking.	L	Signs regularly checked. Consider provision of hand-sanitiser.

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
Virus left on surfaces within enclosed units where may survive for longer periods	Children and Parents/guardians/carers. Cross contamination/spread of infection	H	Signs to parents/carers to encourage that these be avoided. Signs requesting handwashing & hand sanitation before entering and on leaving. No eating..	M	Weekly inspection carried out by a nominated Parish Councillor. The inspections are recorded. Annual Play Area Inspection carried out by RoSPA accredited inspector. Consider regular disinfection or preventing use with tape, mesh and/or signage. Consider provision of hand-sanitiser.
Children (infectious) shouting close to people outside of support bubble (increasing respiratory droplets)	Parents/guardians/carers and children Maintenance operatives. Cross contamination/spread of infection	H	Signs to parents/carers to discourage shouting. Signs to advise public to avoid when busy. Signs requiring queuing for equipment, parent/carer supervision and social distancing.	M	Weekly inspection carried out by a nominated Parish Councillor. The inspections are recorded. Annual Play Area Inspection carried out by RoSPA accredited inspector. Monitor and re-close facility, if issue considered excessive and uncontrollable.
Staff not following government and the settings guidelines	Litter Picker and Maintenance Operatives. Cross contamination/spread of infection	H	Litter Picker has a risk assessment which includes his work in the play area and receives regular updates from the Parish Clerk	M	
Damaged or defective Play Equipment	Parents/Guardians/Carers, Children, Litter Picker and Maintenance Operatives Slips, trips and falls.	M	Weekly inspection carried out by a nominated Parish Councillor. The inspections are recorded. Annual Play Area Inspection carried out by RoSPA accredited inspector. Any repairs carried out asap by Darlington Borough Council. Hazardous equipment taken out of use/fenced off/signs erected/taped off. Phone number for public to report any defects to the Parish Clerk at the entrance to the play area.	L	

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
Defective Surfaces e.g. potholes	Parents/Guardians/Carers, Children and Litter Picker. Slips, trips and falls.	M	Weekly inspections for safety defects e.g. pot holes, glass etc. carried out by a nominated Parish Councillor. The inspections are recorded. Annual Play Area Inspection carried out by RoSPA accredited inspector. Warning signs erected as necessary. Litter and glass are cleaned up and removed by the Litter Picker asap. Any surface repairs are carried out asap by Darlington Borough Council	L	
Litter / glass etc.	Parents/Guardians/Carers, Children and Litter Picker. Cuts, injury and illness.	M	The Litter Picker visits the play area each week day (except Wednesday) and cleans and disposes of any litter/grass found. The Litter Picker wears protective gloves and equipment. Outside these times reports should be made to the Parish Clerk on the telephone number on the signs at the entrance to the play area.	L	
Discarded syringes etc.	Parents/Guardians/Carers, Children and Litter Picker. Risk of injury or infection.	M	Contact the Parish Clerk immediately on the telephone number on the signs at the entrance to the play area who will arrange for the discarded syringes etc. to be collected and safely disposed of. The Play Area must not be used until the discarded syringes etc. have been safely disposed of and the play area made safe.	L	
Litter Bin.	Parents/Guardians/Carers, Children and Litter Picker. Risk of Injury - Cuts	M	Weekly inspection carried out by a nominated Parish Councillor. The inspections are recorded. Annual Play Area Inspection carried out by RoSPA accredited inspector. Dangerous bin removed from use. Bin constructed of toughened material. Bins emptied on a weekly basis by Darlington Borough Council.	L	
Fencing	Parents/Guardians/Carers, Children and Litter Picker. Risk of Injury – Cuts.	L	Weekly inspection carried out by a nominated Parish Councillor. The inspections are recorded. Annual Play Area Inspection carried out by RoSPA accredited inspector. Fence removed if in dangerous condition and replaced.	L	

Hazard	Who may be affected and how	Initial Rating (L,M,H)	Existing Control Measures	Residual Risk (L,M,H)	Additional Action Required (action by whom and completion date)
Gates	Children Closures Entrapment. Injuries.	M	Weekly inspection carried out by a nominated Parish Councillor. The inspections are recorded. Annual Play Area Inspection carried out by RoSPA accredited inspector. The gate will be removed if it is a safety hazard and replaced asap.	L	
Poisonous / thorny plants	Parents/Guardians/Carers and children. Skin irritation, scratches etc.	L	No poisonous/thorny plants exist in the play area. If they are found they will be removed asap. Weekly inspection carried out by a nominated Parish Councillor. The inspections are recorded.	L	
Inclement weather conditions	Parents/Guardians/Carers and children. conditions	M	Restricted / prohibited access to play area and playing field during periods of inclement weather e.g. snow / ice / Strong winds etc.	M	

Signed..... **Clerk to the Parish Council** Date.....

Review Date