



Medstead Parish Council Playground and Recreation Area Inspection Policy

AIM.

To minimise the risk of accidents and help provide a safer environment for children and adults alike to enjoy play and exercise.

SUMMARY

The Playground and Recreation Area Policy is designed to take account of all statutory requirements in addition to this Council's commitment to provide safe formal play areas and environmental play opportunities within the confines of its budget facilities.

Medstead Parish Council understands and acknowledges the need to:

- Consult and liaise with parents, children and schools, when considering the purchase of new equipment and thereby ensuring only the type of equipment that will be enjoyed and put to its maximum use will be considered.
- Educate parents/guardians to be aware of their responsibility to their charges at play.
- Provide more play opportunities for disabled children bearing in mind when considering the purchase of new equipment.
- Install signs in prominent positions, advising that play areas and the Village Green are areas where dog owners must clear up after their dogs.
- Update/ replace old or defective equipment.
- Recognise the expected 'life' of existing equipment and create a replacement plan.
- Ensure sites are regularly visually inspected for superficial defects and faults to equipment in addition to general cleanliness and removal of dangerous objects.
- Monthly inspections should be recorded and be more 'in depth' covering all play and adult gym equipment (including the impact absorbing surfaces), seats, gates, notice boards and litter bins.
- Undertake a detailed annual documented inspection, carried out in accordance with current legislation by an RPII qualified independent inspector.
- To carry out a regular risk assessment in line with HM Government advice and take all precautions necessary to assess whether the playground / adult gym equipment facilities are able to be safely reopened in light of the Coronavirus and any other restrictions.

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