



STRATTON AUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL (SAPC)

RISK ASSESSMENT – OPENING OF PLAYGROUND

FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT COVID-19 CLOSURE

Issue 1: 1 July 2020

INTRODUCTION

The UK Government has instructed that outdoor playgrounds may open on 4 July 2020. This document outlines SAPC's assessment of risk which allows them to open their playground no earlier than 4 July 2020

This was discussed at a properly constituted Zoom facilitated meeting of the Council on 1st July 2020. At the meeting it was agreed to:

- Prepare this written assessment (although the Government document "COFID-19 Guidance for Managing Playgrounds and Outdoor Gyms" dated 26 June 2020 states "If the owner/operator has fewer than 5 workers, they do not have to write anything down as part of the risk assessment.")
- Ensure appropriate measures are put in place before the opening of the playground.

GUIDELINES

On 30th June 2020 SAPC received a NALC document (National Association of Local Councils) "Coronavirus – information for Parish and Town Councils" which gives advice for users and parents. This advice will be reflected in SAPC's actions. The NALC document also makes references to the Government document detailed above and it is this document that guides the following risk assessment.

The SAPC insurance provider has not issued any specific guidance, however have commented thus:

"Whilst we are unable to advise whether specific measures are acceptable to comply with Government guidelines, we can advise what the insurance requirements are. Therefore I can confirm, the policy we arrange requires reasonable steps to be taken to prevent or protect against injury, illness, loss or damage arising. Provided such steps are in place and subject to all other policy

terms and conditions being met the policy will respond should a claim arise and the Council is found legally liable”.

SCOPE

It should be noted that SAPC playground has no:

- Public toilets
- Exercise machinery
- Employees

It also should be noted that the Government document issues guidance which does not outweigh existing law.

The document does state that “owners / operators must take into account the requirements of children with additional needs”.

Since its closure in March, the playground has had as complete refresh.

ACTIONS

1 Before opening

- A hand sanitiser dispenser will be installed to assist visitors to maintain their own protection
- A safety inspection shall be carried out by SAPC members prior to the re-opening
- the general litter bin will be empty and ready for use and thereafter emptied every two weeks. Items such as hand wipes should be put in this bin as they are non-recyclable.
- Posters, which are at Appendices 1 and 2, and additional signage will be displayed in the area.
- These posters will be published on the SAPC website.

2 Following opening

- Safety inspections shall continue to be conducted regularly.
- The sanitiser dispenser will be checked and refilled, but users will be asked to provide their own after the initial opening phase.
- Litter bins shall be emptied fortnightly.
- Posters shall be inspected and replaced if necessary.



For further information contact the Clerk onstrattonaudley.parishcouncil@gmail.com

Advice to users of the playground

- Sanitize hands before entering the playground
- Carry a supply of hand sanitizer and wipes for children to use when moving from one piece of equipment to another
- Maintain social distancing of 2 meters, or 1 meter with risk mitigation
- Ensure children do not crowd onto any single piece of equipment
- Remember government advice to avoid touching your face and to cough or sneeze into a tissue or your arm
- Dispose of all litter into the green general bin
- Where possible wipe clean touch points on equipment
- Sanitise your hands before leaving the playground



The parish Council has taken all reasonable steps to prevent or protect against injury, illness, loss or damage arising. However the use of this playground and its equipment is done at the users own risk where appropriate.

- MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING
- FOLLOW ALL GOVERNMENT GUIDE LINES
- MAINTAIN GOOD HYGIENE
- WIPE SURFACES & SANITISE CHILDRENS HANDS REGULAR
- DISPOSE OF GLOVES, WIPES OR MASKS IN THE GREEN GENERAL BIN
- SHOW CONSIDERATION TO CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS