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| **Site / Area:** | |  | | **Date of assessment:** |  | **Risk Assessment #:** | **006RA** |
| **Completed by (name):** | |  | | **Signature:** |  | | |
| **In Consultation with** | |  | | **Signature:** |  | | |
| **Identify / describe activity, equipment, area or event you are assessing:** | | | | | **PLAYGROUNDS & NATURE PLAY** | | |
| **In conjunction with this risk assessment, training / education and development of a relevant SOP may be required.** | | | | | | | |
| **Step 1:** **Identify the hazard/s:**What do you believe are the hazards?(Refer Risk Assessment Guideline (015G)) | | **Step 2: Assess the risks:**  What do you believe are the risks?  (Refer *Risk Assessment Guideline (015G)*) | | **Step 3: Reducing the risk:** What do you believe can be done to reduce the risk? (Refer *Risk Assessment Guideline (015G)*) | | |
| **What could cause harm?** | | **What could go wrong?** | | **Controls** | | |
| **Gravity**   * Safe Fall Zone (the area beneath and around the playground equipment where a child might land if they fall. The size of the fall zone can depend on the height of the equipment and its use) | | * Broken bones * Sprains/strains * Splinters * Foreign body in eye * Dental avulsion | | * Clear fall zones are maintained around equipment where a child can fall (fall zones must remain clear of objects such as fences, seating, pathways, rocks and trees etc).   [Impact Areas Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Kidsafe-SA-Impact-Areas-Info-Sheet-2019.pdf) | | |
| **Gravity**   * Surfacing (areas beneath and around playground equipment where there is a potential of a fall requires impact absorbing materials) | | * Broken bones * Sprains/strains * Splinters * Foreign body in eye * Dental avulsion | | * Soft fall is installed that is at least 250mm deep in the general play area, or 300mm deep under high use areas. * Soft fall is maintained & inspected on a regular basis (e.g. raked frequently). * Depth of soft fall checked frequently to ensure surfacing has not displaced significantly, especially in areas under fall zones. * Synthetic surfaces (and its installation) is maintained and meets Australian Standards.   [Playground Surfacing Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Kidsafe-SA-Playground-Surfacing-Info-Sheet-2019.pdf) | | |
| **Gravity**   * Height of the Equipment | | * Broken bones * Sprains / strains * Dental avulsion | | Different equipment is installed in age appropriate playgrounds.  * Staff have been instructed in the safe use of the play area and are advised of the age appropriateness for the students. | | |
| **Gravity**   * Raised Surfaces without barriers | | * Broken bones * Sprains / strains * Dental avulsion | | * Platforms, ramps and bridges have guardrails / barriers installed * Play area equipment rails and barriers are vertical so that they cannot be used at footholds for climbing.   [Barriers, Guardrails and Handrails Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Kidsafe-SA-Barriers-Guardrails-and-Handrails-protection-against-falls-Info-Sheet-2019.pdf) | | |
| **Machinery & Equipment**   * Poorly Maintained Equipment | | * Broken bones * Sprains / strains * Splinters * Foreign body in eye * Dental avulsion | | Visual inspections conducted on a regular basis – inspect all play area areas and equipment for excessive wear, deterioration and any potential hazards.Painted surfaces should be maintained to prevent flaking paint, corrosion and deteriorationComprehensive maintenance program implemented for each playground area.  * Repairs and replacement of equipment parts are completed following the manufacturer’s instructions. All records of all maintenance, inspections and repairs are retained, including any checklists used.   [Playground Safety Management System Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Kidsafe-SA-Playground-Safety-Management-Systems-Info-Sheet-2019.pdf) | | |
| **Machinery & Equipment**   * Areas of Entrapment | | * Bruising * Sprains * Contusions * Lacerations | | Equipment has been designed and built so that children’s head, neck, limbs or fingers cannot become trapped.  * Play area equipment meets Australian Standards (4486).   [Entrapment Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Kidsafe-SA-Entrapment-Info-Sheet-2019.pdf) | | |
| **Machinery & Equipment**   * Tree roots, edging * Sharp edges, rocks * Nature Play | | * Abrasions * Broken bones * Cuts and lacerations | | Inspections are conducted regularly to ensure so trip hazards, no objects placed in areas that shouldn’t be present.  * Ensure that any concrete footings for the playground equipment are at least 20cm below ground level and covered over. * Edges of rocks have been chamfered.   [Nature Playspaces Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Kidsafe-SA-Natural-Playspaces-Info-Sheet-2019.pdf) | | |
| **Psychological**   * No immediate access to phone or radios in the event of an emergency | | * Distress and anxiety for student due to delayed assistance | | * Staff are encouraged to take mobile phones with them when on yard duty | | |
| **Extreme Temperatures**   * Exposure to Heat / UV | | * Sunburn * Heat stress | | Shade sails or permanent structures installed.  * Staff & students reminded to wear hats and apply sunscreen when outdoors. * Equipment isolated from use where no other controls are viable.   [Shade in Playspaces Resource](https://kidsafesa.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Kidsafe-SA-Shade-in-Playspace-Info-Sheet-2019.pdf) | | |
| **Other**   * Lack of Supervision | | * Injuries | | Play area has been designed to allow visualisation of students throughout the playground area, with visual barriers minimised as much as possible.  * Provide adequate supervision to prevent injuries by ensuring students use playground equipment properly and don’t engage in unsafe behaviour.  Minimise number of children on playground to reasonable numbers appropriate to the playground. | | |
| **Other** | |  | |  | | |
| **Suggested Playground Inspection Schedule** | | | | | | |
| **Inspection frequency** | | **Designated person** | | **Task** | | |
| **Daily** | | Teachers on yard duty | | Visual inspection of all equipment for obvious hazards | | |
| **Weekly** | | Maintenance staff | | Inspection and maintenance of equipment components (including bolts, nail heads, raking of soft fall and sandpits) | | |
| **Quarterly** (each term) | | Principal (delegated person) | | Thorough inspection of all playground equipment | | |
| **Annual** – or as per the manufacturers recommendation | | Structural / playground expert | | Formal review of the structural elements of the play equipment / shade sails. | | |
| **Where worksites have specific ‘unique’ playground equipment e.g. canoes, boats, in-ground trampolines, these must be included on the risk assessment.** | | | | | | |

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| **Authorised by:** |  | **Signature:** |  | **Date:** |  |

**Review hazard/risk assessment if task or circumstances change and at intervals appropriate to the level of risk (minimum 5 years).**

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| **Step 4: Monitor & review:**  (Refer to hazard sheet)  **Please tick Yes or No** | | | | | | | | |
| **Were the controls effective?** | | | | **Were there any unforeseen hazards/ incidents?** | | | | **New controls** |
| **Yes** |  | **No** |  | **Yes** |  | **No** |  |
| **DETAILS** | | | | **DETAILS** | | | | **DETAILS** |
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| **Name:** |  | **Signature:** |  | **Date:** |  |