

## Moretonhampstead Parish Council – Play Area Risk Assessment

**Location:** Play Area, The Sentry

**Date:** 22/01/2025

**Assessor:** S Parkin, Clerk

### Purpose:

- Identify potential hazards in the play area.
- Evaluate likelihood of harm.
- Ensure current safety measures are adequate and identify improvements if needed.

### Play Area Risk Assessment – Detailed by Equipment

Equipment / Area	Who is at Risk	Risks Identified	Existing Control Measures	Monitoring / Inspection	Likelihood / Risk Level
Signage	All users	Missing / unclear signs, vandalism	All signs are present and in good condition. Regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections by council; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
General surfaces / pathways	All users	Trips, slips, uneven surfaces	Regular visual check, regular grass cut as per contract	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Gates	All users	Pinch points, faulty latches, injury from swinging gates	Self-closing gates, latch checks	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low

Fencing	All users	Loose posts	Regular visual check, repairs as needed	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Litter bins	All users	Overflowing bins, hygiene issues	Regular emptying (TDC), regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Seating / benches	All users	Trips, loose fixings, sharp edges	Regular visual check, repair/replace as needed	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Sweeping Seesaw	Children	Falls, impact, pinch points	Safety surfacing, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Swing – Mixed (2 Bay, 2 Junior, 2 Toddler)	Children	Falls, entanglement, collisions	Safety surfacing, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Agility – High Bars (3 Tier)	Children	Falls, collisions	Safety surfacing, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Climber – Overhead Bars	Children	Falls, entrapment, hand injuries	Safety surfacing, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low

Climber – Jungle Gym	Children	Falls, trips, impact injuries	Safety surfacing, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Multiplay – Slide Climber	Children	Falls, collisions, slips	Safety surfacing, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Climber – Cabin	Children	Falls, splinters, entrapment	Safety surfacing, smooth timber, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Rocking Horse	Children	Falls, impact injuries	Safety surfacing, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Agility – Rope Walk	Children	Falls, rope entanglement	Safety surfacing, secure ropes, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low
Rocker – Seat	Children	Falls, impact injuries	Safety surfacing, regular visual check	Weekly visual inspections; annual ROSPA inspection	Low

### Inspection & Maintenance Protocol

- **Weekly:** Visual inspections by council staff; check for obvious hazards such as broken glass, litter, damage to equipment. Findings recorded in inspection log.
- **Annually:** Full professional inspection by **ROSPA**; report submitted to MPC and remedial actions scheduled as required.

**Actions / Recommendations**

1. Maintain weekly visual inspections and annual ROSPA inspection.
2. Keep detailed inspection and action records.
3. Review risk assessment annually or after any serious incident.
4. Ensure staff conducting inspections are trained to identify hazards.
5. Consider additional signage for supervision reminders.

**Overall Risk Rating:** Low (with current controls in place)