



OPEN SPACE SERVICES

AUGUST 1, 2020

Playground Audit

GREENWAYS SPORTING GROUND

MID MURRAY COUNCIL



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DISCLAIMER

Whilst care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this report, Open Space Services and its employees, take no responsibility for any errors, omissions or changes to information that may occur and disclaim all responsibility and liability to any person in respect to anything done or omitted to be done in reliance upon information within this publication.

PREAMBLE

This report assesses the nominated play space against the relevant Australian Standards listed below.

Australian Standard AS 4685

Playground Equipment and Surfacing

Part 0: Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation

Part 1: General safety requirements and test methods

Part 2: Particular safety requirements and test methods for swings

Part 3: Particular safety requirements and test methods for slides

Part 4: Particular safety requirements and test methods for cableways

Part 5: Particular safety requirements and test methods for carousels

Part 6: Particular safety requirements and test methods for rocking equipment

Part 11: Particular safety requirements and test methods for spatial networks

Australian Standard AS 4422

Playground surfacing

Specifications, requirements and test methods

Marking

Individual play equipment structures are to be permanently marked with a plate clearly identifying the name, address, the equipment reference and year of manufacture and a base level mark for the associated impact attenuating surface. In addition, equipment stating compliance with the Australian Standards must be marked. Equipment not marked by the manufacturer will have an allocated serial number supplied, some equipment will have the same manufacturers number for all equipment, this too will receive an individual serial number for each piece of equipment, this will allow for easier identification

Access, Entrance and Surrounds

Playgrounds should have clear access for pathways and supervision without trip hazards, sharp protrusions or weeds. Rubbish bins, water bubblers and seats should be inspected regularly to ensure working order.

Free Height of Fall

The free height of fall must not exceed 1800mm for Supervised Early Childhood Settings and 3000mm for All Age Settings. The free height of fall is the greatest vertical distance measured from the intended body support of the equipment to the impact area below.

Fall zone

A minimal fall zone of 1500mm is required around equipment that have a height 600mm (with fall heights of more than 600mm above ground level) and between individual items of equipment. An increase in the falling space/impact area for equipment with platforms measuring more than 1500mm above ground level.

Falling spaces for specific equipment items with forced movement such as slides, swings and carousels. The falling space/impact area for equipment with forced movement cannot overlap with other falling spaces/impact areas.

Surfacing

Surfacing to Australian Standards 4685.0:2017 be provided across the falling space/impact area where play equipment provisions are more than 600mm above ground level.

Finish of Equipment

Equipment shall have no protruding nails, bolt threads, projecting wire rope terminations, pointed or sharp ended components. Surfaces are finished smooth with no splintering. All playground equipment should be structurally stable, in good condition and fit for children's play.

Protection Against Falling

Guardrails/barriers to be installed for heights of more than 600mm above ground level of intended use. Continuous handrails are required on each side of access ways and bridges. All items intended for gripping must have a diameter that measures between 16mm-45mm.

Head and Neck Entrapment

Head and neck entrapment refer to any opening at a height of more than 600mm above ground level that would allow a child's body to pass through but not their head. This can result in death or serious permanent injury. AS 4685 states that bound head and neck entrapment (dimensions of 89mm – 230mm), partially bound and V-shaped openings, shearing or moving openings (flexible and rigid parts with openings less than 230mm) must be avoided. It is therefore critical that any head entrapment hazards are eliminated immediately.

Clothing/Hair Entrapment

Toggle/clothing entrapment refers to situations where parts of clothing/hair may become trapped and may lead to serious or fatal injury.

Foot Entrapment

Foot entrapment refers to situations where gaps greater than 30mm present on surfaces inclined up to 45° intended for running/walking, completely bound rigid openings in surfaces for running/climbing.

Finger Entrapment

Finger entrapment refers to any opening that would allow a child's fingers or thumbs to be trapped in a fall situation and can be responsible for traumatic long-term injury. Gaps or openings with dimensions of 8-25mm at 1000mm or more above playing surface level must be eliminated.

Means of Access

Equipment is designed to provide safe ascent or descent. Means of access include steps, stairs, ladders and ramps. The equipment shall be designed to ensure that adults are able to gain access to assist children within the equipment.

Natural Playspaces

Natural play elements incorporated into a playground. Where this cannot be applied, a risk benefit assessment may be required to determine the suitability of such elements. A natural habitat will attract wildlife. Ensure that an inspection of the playspace is conducted before children enter. Regular maintenance to remove debris and weeds is recommended.

Documentation

The playground owner/operator must ensure that a Playground Safety Management System is established to include the recording and archiving of documentation.

Documentation to be archived includes:

- • Policies and procedures
- • Reports e.g. accident/injury
- • Inventory/Equipment register
- • Inspection checklists
- • Works orders
- • Maintenance actions
- • Certification records e.g. equipment, surfacing
- • Manufacturer's warranty details
- • Manufacturer's installation, inspection and maintenance instructions
- • Operating Instructions (if applicable)

Maintenance

Routine maintenance checks to be conducted on a regular basis. These include the inspection of all timber, wear and tear on chains, condition of all play items (cracks, corrosion, graffiti, etc), and insect infestation.

All maintenance schedules should be collected from suppliers of equipment and resources made available to meet the requirements of the maintenance schedule. Regular inspections are required. Timber components will require regular sealing and fixtures will require tightening. It is crucial that regular inspections and prompt repairs be carried out to ensure the safe upkeep of play facilities.

Please Note: The standards are not law and are intended as a guide to safety within playgrounds.

Certificate of Audit



22 Egret place
Hewett SA 5118

Consulting Services to Mid Murray Council

Date	Services Performed By:	Services Performed For:
August 1, 2020	Open Space Services 22 Egret place Hewett SA 5118	Mid Murray Council Greenways Sports Ground

This Certificate of Playground Auditing Summary is issued pursuant to the Australian Standards between **Mid Murray Council** ("Client") and **Open Space Services** ("Contractor"), effective **July 30, 2020**

Note: If there is no serial number, the date plate will be used as the serial number with a sequence number attached if more than one date plate. If no serial number exists, one will be allocated to it.

SN: GSG - 001
SN: GSG - 002

SN: GSG - 003
SN: GSG - 004

Date and time of audit

The Services commenced on **August 1, 2020**, and shall continue through **August 1, 2021**.
Until complete

Certification with Outstanding's

Certifying Auditor: **Barry Rolton – Open Space Services**

Defects outstanding:**2**..... Defects corrected: Date:

Remedial works outstanding: ...**5**..... Works completed: Date:

Outstanding remedial and defects completed by (Signature)





Certified safe to use with all works signed off from 3 months of date of signature:

Certifying Auditor sign off:..... Date:.....

Risk Matrix

This report is a comprehensive Inspection Audit Report on the Riverton Primary School Playground located at the oval which is owned by the school. The audit was completed in accordance with the current Australian Standards for Playground Equipment. This document and its attachments are designed as part of the standard of care to identify the current condition of the playground equipment and the surrounding environment. The purpose is to identify any non-conforming conditions in accordance to the current Australian Standards:

		CONSEQUENCE				
		LITTLE OR NO INJURY	MINOR INJURY REQUIRING FIRST AID	MODERATE INJURY CAUSING ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL	SERIOUS INJURY WITH LONG TERM CONSEQUENCES	DEATH OR DISABILITY
LIKELIHOOD	RARE (Highly unlikely event)	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW
	UNLIKELY (Conceivable event)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
	POSSIBLE (Could occur event)	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH
	LIKELY (Almost certain event)	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
	ALMOST CERTAIN (Will occur event)	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH	UNACCEPTABLE RISK

	Low is the risk related to all other areas of the inspection, this does not require any works. Low is given rather than “No Risk” as there may be a risk that is unknown such as when the equipment gets hot, it could burn a toddlers skin.
	A medium risk is most likely to apply to top ups of loose fill top ups where the level has dropped as far as 200mm. This risk has the three month completion date and starts from the time of inspection.
	A risk assessment of high does have to be rectified or reach a risk assessment of low. This will usually take no longer than one month from the date of receiving the report.
	Any items or works under this risk assesment needs to be carried out as soon as possible or the item needs to be bunted off if iminant injury is possible.

Priority Rating

There are 4 priority rating

- Low** Minor problem, action should still be carried out in the next 12 months
- Medium** Indicates attention required within 2-3 months
- High** Indicates immediate attention required
- Urgent** Make safe, bunt off asap

General inspection of Play equipment and general area

On arrival, a general inspection is required for both safety and to identify the area and how it is generally utilised. This is also a requirement for risk assessment that was supplied at the time of quotation.

VISUAL INSPECTION		
Play Equipment	Findings	Rating
Debris in the playground that may be hazardous, such as broken glass, needles or animal fouling.	The playground is clean with no areas of debris.	LOW
Loose-fill surfacing levels that are at inadequate levels.	No softfall on site.	HIGH
Damage to unitary surfacing	No, synthetic surface within this playground.	LOW
Equipment that is broken or missing as a result of use or vandalism.	The equipment has not been Vandalised.	LOW
The condition of ancillary items, such as barbecues, tables, rubbish bins, etc.	One of the bench seats has a broken central beam.	MEDIUM
Dead or damaged overhanging branches that may potentially fall onto the playground.	No trees were affecting both play and ancillary equipment.	LOW
Comments		
Softfall needed, and minor works required.		

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL INSPECTION

A comprehensive annual inspection requires the checking of all items listed in Clause 8.5.4, and 8.5.3., this inspection is intended to determine conformance with the relevant parts of AS 4685 and to establish the overall level of safety of the equipment.

Items to be assessed: (Hazards)	Assessment responses			Assessment review	Rating
	Yes	No	N/A		
SURFACING					
Is the playground free of concrete, asphalt or other non-impact absorbing material under play equipment? (Any hard surface should be removed and replaced with an impact-absorbing surface when fall height is greater than 600mm.)		No		No softfall, both Cubby house and network equipment requires softfall	HIGH
Loose-fill material					
Is there adequate drainage to prevent rotting?	Yes			The area is free draining	LOW
Does it extend at least 1.5m from all equipment that is less than 1.5m in height, or 2.5m from equipment that is up to 3m in height?		No		No softfall on site	HIGH
Are the borders enclosing the loose-fill surfacing secure?		No		No softfall on site	HIGH
EQUIPMENT					
Are all structural foundations free of movement, checked for wear and below ground level?	Yes			All structures were free of movement and none had rust creep.	LOW
Are all structures free of rot or corrosion and have no missing parts, panels or fittings? (Check that plastic equipment is sound and free of cracks and deterioration from the sun.)	Yes			The equipment does not look to be missing components	LOW
Are all components designed to prevent water entering enclosed areas and free of deterioration? (Check cap ends, grommets, on bolts or screws.)		No		The cubby house is exposed and is in fair condition, the stairs will require repair in the upper fixture	MEDIUM
Are all components free of corrosion and bulging and all nails and fixings flush with surface or countersunk?	Yes			All components were as installed with no abnormal anomalies.	LOW
Are all bolts and fasteners secure?		No		the stairs will require repair in the upper fixture	MEDIUM

Are all equipment surfaces and parts in good order? (Check for splits, splinters, cracks, cuts and open joints. Look at specific pieces of equipment such as swings and slides. Swing seats should be made of a soft material rather than wood. Slides should have a smooth surface and gradual surface at the bottom.)		No		The cubby house is aging and in places have areas which contain splintering	LOW
Are all parts of each piece of equipment such as links, chains and fasteners, secure and not excessively worn? (Check for empty bolt holes, loose pieces of chain and S hooks not tightly closed. Replace pieces if wear is noticeable. Look at specific pieces of equipment such as swings and swinging bridges.)	Yes			The network is new and in good condition with no wear as yet	LOW
Are all entrapment points eliminated? (Check for any narrow openings, "V" shaped gaps or sharp angles hooks or protrusions, which could trap a child's head or limb.)		No		The stairs are an entrapment point above 600mm for toddlers	MEDIUM
Is there enough space between equipment so that children can move freely between areas without bumping or running into each other?	Yes			There is ample room for children to interact while equipment is being used, the areas between have no restrictions.	LOW
Is the equipment set out to allow for unobstructed supervision?	Yes			The fitness items are can be seen from observation areas	LOW

Play Equipment

SN: GSG – 001

SN: GSG – 002

SN: GSG – 003



OPERATIONAL INSPECTION

OPERATIONAL INSPECTION		
Play Equipment	Findings	Rating
Excessive wear of moving parts (including chain links).	The stairs are broken at the attachment point.	MEDIUM
Any protrusions and sharp edges.	There were no significant	MEDIUM
Are all bolts and fasteners secure?	The stair attachment on one side needs to be replaced due to breakages and the screw not being secure.	LOW
Are there any entrapments, hang points or catch points on any of the equipment?	The top three treads of the ladder are hanging points where the body can go through but not the head and is above 600mm	HIGH
The structural adequacy and/or stability of all playground equipment including ancillary items. NOTE: Equipment that relies on a single anchor or attachment point should be carefully inspected.	The structural stability is acceptable on all the item, the bench seating is movable.	LOW
Does it extend at least 1.5m from all equipment that is less than 1.5m in height, or 2.5m from equipment that is up to 3m in height?	There is no softfall under any of the play structures.	HIGH
Excessive corrosion, particularly within structural members.	No corrosion was found on the equipment, surface rusting is occurring on items of exposed steel.	LOW
Foundations for exposed concrete, rot and corrosion.	There is exposed concrete due to there not being any softfall	MEDIUM
Trees for potential hazards. NOTE: This may require the skills and competencies of a professional arborist.	No trees impact this area.	LOW
Are all structural attachments affixed tightly to their respective anchor points and attachment points sound with no wear or pull out from fixture points?	The equipment is affixed to the ground with no movement	LOW

Comments

The interior is carpeted but there were no spiders and insects, the outer area is also still in good condition however the stairs have broken out at the top with one side being smashed up which will require fixing. The whole structure is bolted down onto concrete pads and no movement can be identified within the structure. The structure is greater than 600mm and will require 300mm of softfall, also as the stairs are greater than 600mm high, they will require hand rails that are compliant.



The bench seat along the side is not a permanent fixture. Not sure whether this is for kids or if it is just stored here. The seat is too close to the small activity play item.



This small play item is a portable module but is over 600 mm in height which also requires softfall to a depth of 300 mm and the seat is too close, it will need to have 1.5 m clearance.



Both pieces of equipment have no sofffall, both are greater than 600mm from ground level and will require 300mm of sofffall and a free fall area of 1.5 metres all around, I am going to recommend that the uprights on the cubby be cut and the whole cubby gets lowered to 500mm from ground level



This piece of equipment is like new and has no wear has no softfall, its 1550mm from ground level and will require 300mm of softfall and a free fall area of 1.5 metres all around.



Ancillary Items

SN: GSG – 004



OPERATIONAL INSPECTION

Comments

The two bench seats in front of the club rooms are free standing with solid frame and wooden plank top, one of the seats has a broken middle plank on one end, the plank will need replacing.



WAB - 014

Completion Criteria

The twelve-monthly audit undertaken by Open Space Services provide the following summary in regards to condition of the Play Equipment and summary of outstanding defects.

Serial Number of Play Equipment: **GSG - 001 (Multi Play)**

- Softfall required (**Remedial**)

Serial Number of Play Equipment: **GSG – 002 Cubby House**

- Stair fixture need replacing (**Remedial**)
- Softfall required (**Remedial**)
- No hand rails on the stairs (**Defect**)
- Hang point in step gaps (**Defect**)

note I would recommend lowering the cubby house to 500mm, no softfall will be required and no railing will be required, once at 500mm the hang point

Serial Number of Play Equipment: **GSG – 003 Network**

- Softfall required (**Remedial**)

Serial Number of Play Equipment: **GSG – 004 (Bench Seats)**

- Middle broken plank needs replacing (**Remedial**)