

Playground Self-Assessment Tool

Use this assessment tool to ensure your playground complies with the legislation. The list of items below is similar to that used by our Inspectors when checking playground compliance.

Playground and Play Equipment Risks	Compliant Y or N	Legislative Reference
<u>Sharps</u> : Are metals/plastics/fibre glass items smooth with nil damage or sharp edges, no exposed screws/nails, sandpits have no visible sharps and are raked daily, and metals are non-rusted?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
<u>Falls</u> : Does equipment have adequate fall protection (handrails, platform walls, etc) and/or impact protection (loose fill under any item with a fall height greater than 600mm from the ground)?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 78, 213
<u>Unintended Movement</u> : Are logs, stumps, boulder, large rocks, and non-moving play structure parts adequately secured (no movement)?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 78, 213
<u>Biological</u> : Is equipment clean of any biological waste (including animal), and sandpits have no visible waste and are raked daily?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
<u>Security</u> : Are fences and gates safe and in good condition with no protrusions?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37
<u>Security</u> : Are self-closing and self-locking gates functioning correctly?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
<u>Trips/Falls</u> : Are all drains adequately covered and secured to prevent access?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 78
<u>Entrapment</u> : Is equipment free from tight spaces, any holes are large enough to prevent entrapment of fingers/head/etc, and moveable items are easy to move and are light weight?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
<u>Slips/Trips</u> : Does playground equipment have adequate grip surfaces (including in wet weather), and walkways/ trails are clearly visible and surfaces are even?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 40(a), 213

Systems and Training	Compliant Y or N	Legislative Reference
Have you conducted an adequate risk assessment of playground and play equipment area(s)?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 34-38
Do you have a daily, quarterly, and annual inspection process for playground and play equipment area(s)?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37
Is there sufficient supervision of the play area(s) while in use?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a) & (c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Do you have a maintenance schedule for any equipment/items used in the playground and play equipment area(s)?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Do workers have adequate training for supervision, maintenance and/or inspection requirements?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(c) & (f) Regs: 35, 37, 39
Do you have a reporting process for playground and play equipment area(s) incidents and hazards (including maintenance issues)?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(c), 38 Regs: 35, 37
Do you have a safe and secure location for the storage of mobile sports equipment? E.g., sporting bats and balls?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37
If applicable, is there a process for the receiving of donated materials and inspecting donated materials to determine suitability?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(b) & (c) Regs: 35, 37

Inspection of equipment	Compliant Y or N	Legislative Reference
Are all fasteners tight? Replace any that are missing.	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Are all uprights and components secure in the ground, and no footings are showing through the soft fall?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 213

		Regs: 35, 37, 213
Is steel play equipment free of rust or corrosion. (All metal play equipment will show some signs of breakdown over time, and this may be exacerbated by a marine environment)? Replace any badly corroded parts.	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Is timber equipment splintering or warping? Replace any damaged items.	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Are moving parts free of excessive wear? Replace any worn items.	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Are chain links free of excessive wear? Replace any damaged items.	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Are steel components free of any bending or cracking? Replace where necessary.	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Are large rope net structures with tensioning aids (e.g., turn buckles) checked for sufficient tension? Re-tension if necessary.	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Is equipment regularly washed with clean water? In highly corrosive environments it is strongly recommended that all equipment is regularly washed with clean water to prevent any build-up of rust causing minerals. This is particularly important where the equipment is positioned under a permanent shade structure and cannot be naturally washed by rain.	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213
Does the playground layout allow for good visual supervision? (Clear line of sight?)	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37
If there is a Liberty Swing; is it fenced (minimum height 1500mm) with an access gate that is self-closing and fitted with a child -proof locking mechanism? Is a sign placed on the gate that reads: RESTRICTED AREA, USERS AND CARERS ONLY AS REQUIRED IN THIS AREA?	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	Act: 19(3)(a-c) Regs: 35, 37, 213