

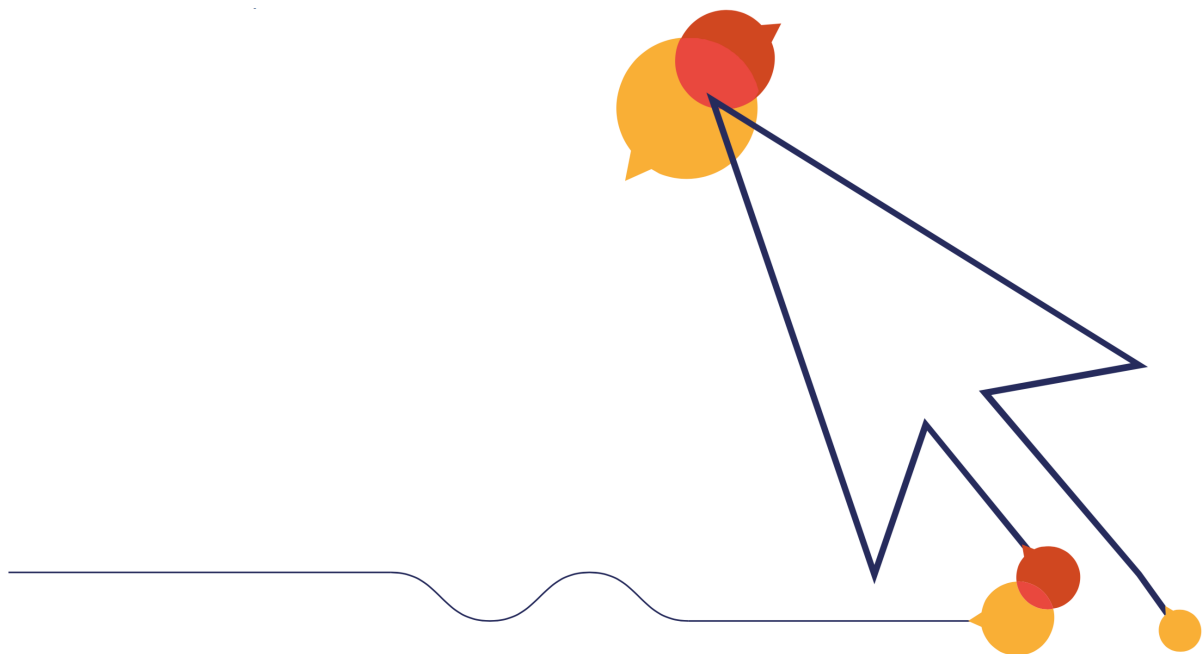


Church Road Recreation Ground



Review for Mixed Facility

Date: 22nd August 2022





Playground Plans Review

Site Name: Church Road, SY3 9HG
Commissioning Agent: Shrewsbury Town Council
Date of Review: 22nd August 2022
Contact: Debbie Entwistle, Technical Officer (Horticulture and Play)
Reviewer: Glynn Hughes

General Comments

The reviewer has been tasked with finding a suitable way forward for the Basketball Court and the Car Park area to co-exist making clashes between the two facilities' users unlikely and lessening the chance of any injury, damage or loss to everyone/anyone who participates.

If there is anything within the review that requires clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me: ghughes@rospaplaysafety.co.uk

Report Introduction and General Recommendations

Report Introduction

The commissioning agent has submitted materials for review to determine the safety of the proposed playground.

Materials submitted:

- Photographs of the site.
- RoSPA Annual Inspection report.
- Explanation of review required.

It is important to note that this report has been prepared by review of the submitted material and, where applicable, searches against manufacturers' specifications. The accuracy of these materials is beyond the responsibility of the report author, and we cannot guarantee its accuracy.

Every reasonable care has been taken in the production of this report, but it must be understood that the material may not be truly representative of the finished installation. The report is not an absolute statement of safety or suitability. It must be used for guidance only.

A post-installation inspection of the finished installation should be conducted, as per the recommendations of British Standard EN 1176-7:2020, clause 5.3. Furthermore, EN 1176-7:2020, clause 6.1 recommends a three-tier inspection system comprising:

- Routine visual inspection
- Operational inspection
- Annual main inspection

It is important that these inspections are undertaken, at a frequency not less than that given by the manufacturer, to ensure equipment and playgrounds are inspected and maintained in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions and remain suitably safe for users.

We shall be happy to undertake these inspections for you or provide training to enable the site operator to you conduct routine and operational inspections.



General Recommendations

1. The Equality Act and Disability Discrimination Act apply to play areas. There is a duty to make reasonable provision for disabled persons in connection with the provision of facilities and services.
2. The equipment has been assessed against the appropriate British, European and International Standards, or recognised industry guidance where no standards exist. The standards against which the equipment in the report has been assessed is listed within the Report Findings below.
3. The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999, as appropriate, require employers to undertake a suitable and sufficient risk assessment of the play area. RoSPA can assist with the production of site risk assessments upon inspection. Such assessments must be kept under suitable review.
4. Where trees are within falling distance of a playground, we recommend that they be assessed for safety and suitability by an appropriately qualified expert. We have not undertaken any such assessment as part of this review.
5. Open water within easy walking distance of the play area should be assessed separately for its safety impact upon users. RoSPA can undertake such an assessment.
6. Where children are likely to visit the playground by bicycle, we recommend the provision of suitable bike storage racks. They should be installed outside of the playground.
7. Answers to many questions about the design, installation, inspection and management of playgrounds are available on our website at www.rospace.com/playsafety



Report Findings and Observations


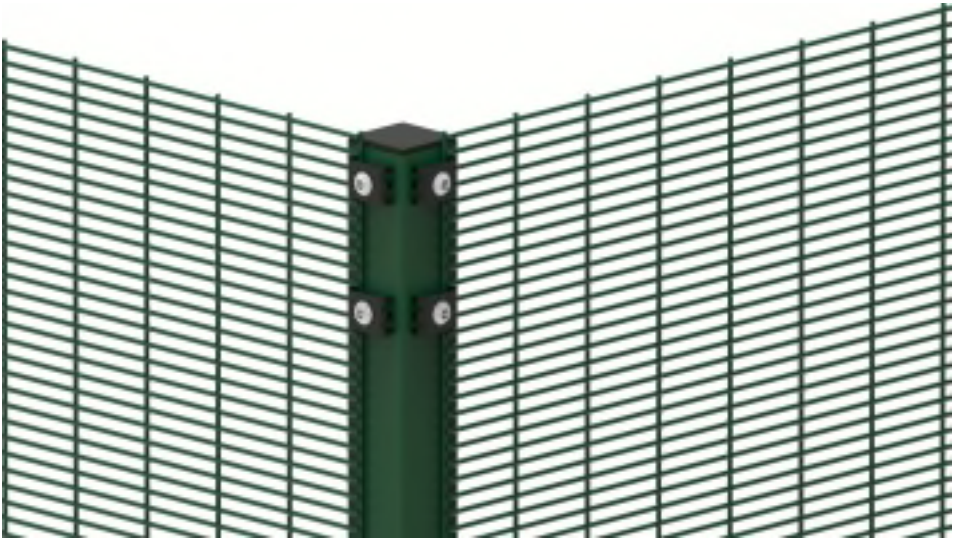
The material submitted has been assessed against criteria in Table 1, where applicable and where possible from the material supplied. Where the assessed criteria have been found to be suitably met this will be noted in the suitability column. Observations about the findings are noted in Table 2.

Table 1 – Assessment Criteria

Assessment Criteria	Suitability	Risk Rating.
<p>Hazards: Clash between users of Car Park and Basketball Facility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At present the potential for clashes between the two groups is high. Users tend to take care of their own area and if it is seen that another group from outside of the community have been given precedence over their own activity, grievances may well start. Car Park users who may be attending the Football, Weddings, Christenings, Burial etcetera could also be upset if they cannot park and are in fear of being late for the event or having their vehicles damaged. The car parking area may also be used for anti-social behaviour in the evenings and mixing sports and vehicles could cause serious injury. <p>Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage is installed at the entrance to the car park warning drivers of the Basketball area. (this would have a limited effect and is not enforceable) Drivers are restricted from the car park at designated times. (more practical but still issues with enforceability) The area is marked out into car bays, leaving the Basketball Area free from markings or in red chevrons to deter parking in that area. (this gives the possibility for more cars to be parked, but you must rely on others to accept it) The Basketball Area is removed, and the equipment located elsewhere. (the only suitable section would be the grassed areas adjacent to the present location, a hard standing would have to be introduced to make the game playable, this could be costly) A designated area for the Basketball is marked out and fenced from the car parking area. (in my opinion separating the two activities is the way forward. With marked car parking spaces, more vehicles will be able to park. The Basketball users would then be safe to play unhindered) 	Not suitable.	Medium 12.




Report Findings and Observations

Assessment Criteria	Suitability	Risk Rating.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The barrier/fencing could be temporary as below, the feet on this particular set would create a potential trip point for users but I believe this would be an acceptable risk. (for reference only) (there is the possibility that these could be moved or stolen)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent barrier/fencing is installed. As you look at the photograph the spacing on the left side that edges the playing field should be the same to the right-hand side of the post. An appropriate distance to the front of the Basketball post would also be required, this needs to be longer than the side distances although there is no set size. The red line is just for reference. I recommend a minimum height of 1.8 metres to prevent ball spillage to the car park. Please see type below for reference only.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I don't believe that any fencing is required to the other two open sides of the Court and that a gate may not be necessary due to the size of the Court and the ease with which balls could be retrieved. However, this may create opportunities to climb/damage the fence. Please ensure that any gate or fencing is EN 1176-1:2017 compliant. 		



Report Findings and Observations

Assessment Criteria	Suitability	Risk Rating.
 <p>The image is a Google Street View of a parking lot. In the foreground, there are four cars parked in a row: a white hatchback, a dark grey hatchback, a silver hatchback, and a maroon hatchback. A red rectangular box highlights the white and dark grey cars. In the background, there is a green field with a white fence, trees, and a brick building. The sky is overcast. The Google Maps interface is visible, including the location name 'Church Rd, Stevenage, England', the Google logo, and a 'Street View' icon. A small inset map in the bottom left corner shows the location in the UK. The word 'Google' is visible at the bottom center of the image.</p>		



The risk scores are calculated by plotting the likelihood of harm against the severity of the injury sustained. The likelihood is given a score of 1 to 5, and the severity is given a score of 1 to 5. In doing this a matrix is produced which gives a numerical assessment of the risk on a score of 1 to 25, and a judgement is made as to which risks are low, are medium and which are high. Risk scores may be adjusted in the light of experience and therefore may not be exactly as per the table. For example, a score of 7 may be noted.

Risks are calculated in this way:

1. An assessment of the likelihood of harm taking place is made using the numbers 1 to 5, by following these descriptions:
 - a. 1 = Rare
 - b. 2 = Unlikely
 - c. 3 = Moderate
 - d. 4 = Likely
 - e. 5 = Certain
2. An assessment of the severity of the injury sustained is made using the numbers 1 to 5, by following these descriptions:
 - a. 1 = Insignificant
 - b. 2 = Minor
 - c. 3 = Moderate
 - d. 4 = Major
 - e. 5 = Catastrophic
3. The two numbers are multiplied to give a risk score on a scale of 1 to 25.
4. Scores of 1 to 7 inclusive are considered to be low risk and are considered to be tolerable,
5. Scores of 8 to 14 are considered to be medium risk and some control measures may be identified to reduce the risks to low, tolerable levels,
6. Score of 15 and above are considered to be high risk and urgent action is considered to be necessary to reduce the risks to tolerable levels.

It is important to note that where an outcome is catastrophic, but for which the likelihood is rare this will present a score of $1 \times 5 = 5$ = low risk. Similarly, a certain event for which the consequence is insignificant will present a score of $5 \times 1 = 5$ = low risk. It is important to consider likelihood and consequence, and not just one of the factors in isolation.

The multiplication of the factors into a risk matrix is given here in Table 1, with a judgement made as to risk scoring indicated by colour.

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Green = LOW risk, Amber = MEDIUM risk, Red = HIGH risk.

Table 1 – Risk Score Matrix

		Severity				
		1 Insignifi- cant	2 Minor	3 Moderate	4 Major	5 Catastro- phic
L i k e l i h o o d	1 = Rare	1 LOW	2 LOW	3 LOW	4 LOW	5 LOW
	2 = Unlikely	2 LOW	4 LOW	6 LOW	8 MEDIUM	10 MEDIUM
	3 = Moderate	3 LOW	6 LOW	9 MEDIUM	12 MEDIUM	15 HIGH
	4 = Likely	4 LOW	8 MEDIUM	12 MEDIUM	16 HIGH	20 HIGH
	5 = Certain	5 LOW	10 MEDIUM	15 HIGH	20 HIGH	25 HIGH



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