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COMPREHENSIVE PLAYGROUND INSPECTION REPORT



LOCATION: Jarrahdale Hall (Bruno Gianatti Hall), Jarrahdale

CLIENT: Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

INSPECTION DATE: 24/09/20

INSPECTED BY: Kiera Reedy

The playgrounds in this report have been assessed against the requirements of the following standards:

AS 4685-2014 (Parts 1-6 & 11): Playground equipment and surfacing - safety requirements and test methods

AS 4685.0:2017: Playground equipment & surfacing - development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation

AS 4422:2016: Playground surfacing - specifications, requirements and test method

Condition Rating & Risk Assessment



"Play provision should aim at managing the balance between the need to offer risk and the need to keep children safe from serious harm... In play provision exposure to some degree of risk may be of benefit because it satisfies a basic human need and gives children the chance to learn about risk and consequences in a controlled environment." Foreword to AS 4685.1–2014

A Risk/Benefit assessment takes into account the benefits of an activity or feature in the playground, as well as the associated risks, weighing with equal consideration the duty to protect children from avoidable serious harm and the duty to provide them with stimulating, adventurous play opportunities.

Risk Assessment Matrix

Probability	E	Highly Likely	VL	L	H	VH	VH
	D	Likely	VL	L	M	H	VH
	C	Possible	VL	L	M	H	H
	B	Unlikely	VL	VL	L	M	M
	A	Very Unlikely	VL	VL	L	L	M
			Little/none	Minor	Moderate	Serious	Permanent
			1	2	3	4	5

<< Injury Severity >>

Severity Rating	Potential level of injury
Little/none	Little or no injury
Minor	Minor injury (e.g. bruising or laceration)
Moderate	Moderate injury requiring medical intervention
Serious	Serious injury likely to require hospitalisation
Permanent	Serious injury likely to result in permanent disability or fatality

Risk Ratings

Priority Ratings

(See the following pages for ratings for each issue or non-compliance identified)

VH - Very high	Very high	- Requires urgent action
H - High	High	- Action as soon as possible
M - Moderate	Medium	- Should be actioned but not urgent
L - Low	Low	- Low risk - customer to determine priority
VL - Very low	Very low	- No action required

Condition Ratings

(Individual items of equipment detailed on the following page)

- 1 - Excellent - No damage. Condition as new or near new. No maintenance requirements.
- 2 - Good - Only minor signs deterioration to surface finishes. No major defects. Minor maintenance may be required.
- 3 - Average - Moderate wear and tear, including surface deterioration. Minor maintenance intervention and/or minor component replacement required.
- 4 - Poor - Significant deterioration and/or equipment damage. Maintenance and/or component replacement required.
- 5 - Failed - Severe deterioration or equipment damage and/or serious structural problems. Equipment requires decommissioning and/or replacement.

* Based on IPWEA asset condition assessment guidelines.

Other comments (if applicable)

Condition Rating - Individual Items



Equipment Type: Play Structure
Manufacturer: Forpark
Installation Date: Circa 2000
Condition: Average



Equipment Type: Spinning Seat
Manufacturer: ?
Installation Date: Circa 2000
Condition: Good



Equipment Type: Surfboard Rocker
Manufacturer: Megatoy
Installation Date: Circa 2000
Condition: Good



Equipment Type: Sky Surfer
Manufacturer: Megatoy
Installation Date: Circa 2000
Condition: Average



Equipment Type: Spinning Pod
Manufacturer: Miracle
Installation Date: Circa 2000
Condition: Average



Equipment Type: Slide (free standing)
Manufacturer: Miracle
Installation Date: Circa 2000
Condition: Average



Issues Identified



Item:	Slide (Play Structure)		
Finding:	The current Standard requires that slides over 1000mm in height should have a rail above the starting section of the slide. While this was compliant with the Standards at the time of installation a rail could easily be fitted.		
Risk Level:	Low	Priority:	Low
Action:	Council to determine whether to add a rail above the slide. If adding a rail it should be between 600mm and 900mm above the starting section of the slide. Alternatively an entry panel could added, ensuring that the opening to the side of the slide is less than 45mm and greater than 25mm.		



Item:	Safety panels and handgrips (Play Structure and Slide)		
Finding:	The openings in the panels, handgrips and slide entry panel on the free standing slide allow the passage of the small (torso) probe, but not the large (head) probe creating potential head entrapment. The equipment was compliant with Standards in force at the time of installation and the likelihood of incident is very low.		
Risk Level:	Low	Priority:	Very low
Action:	No action required.		



Item:	Ladder (Play Structure)		
Finding:	The opening between the top rung and the platform allows passage of the small (torso) probe but not the large (head) probe, creating potential head entrapment if a child was to slip through the opening feet first. The likelihood of an incident is low.		
Risk Level:	Low	Priority:	Low
Action:	Council to determine whether the level of risk is acceptable or whether to replace the ladder. The anticipated remaining life of this equipment and the fact that this has been here many years with no incident may have a bearing on this decision.		



Item:	Swing Frame		
Finding:	Current Standards prohibit swing frames being attached to other equipment unless specific measures are taken to segregate them from other activities, e.g., additional circulation space, barriers or enclosures.		
Risk Level:	Low	Priority:	Low
Action:	As this was compliant with Standards at the time of installation and the risk is low Council will need to determine whether to leave as is or remove the swing.		



Item:	Various uprights (Play Structure)		
Finding:	There is a moderate amount of corrosion on a number of the uprights at surface level. The uprights still appear to be structurally sound at present.		
Risk Level:	Very low	Priority:	Low-Medium
Action:	Monitor periodically and re-evaluate as the level of corrosion worsens. The affected areas could be rubbed back, re-primed and painted to extend their life. Some uprights may need replacement in the medium term.		



Item:	Various items		
Finding:	A moderate amount of rust is present on several other items. It does not appear to be compromising the structural integrity of the equipment at present.		
Risk Level:	Very low	Priority:	Low-Medium
Action:	Monitor periodically and re-evaluate as the level of corrosion worsens. The affected areas could be rubbed back, re-primed and painted to extend the life of the equipment.		



Item:	Fibreglass Slide (Play Structure)		
Finding:	There are several places where the gel-coat has worn away on the slide surface, exposing the fibreglass. The exposed fibreglass does not pose a hazard at present.		
Risk Level:	Very low	Priority:	Low
Action:	In order to limit further wear and prolong the life of the slide, consideration could be given to applying a new gel-coat or coating to the surface of the slide.		



Item:	Free Standing Slide		
Finding:	The opening between the top edge of the slide and the entry panel on the free standing slide allows passage of the neck portion of the probe, creating a potential head/neck entrapment. The likelihood of an incident is low.		
Risk Level:	Moderate	Priority:	Medium
Action:	The openings (at least at the top) should be reduced to less than 45mm. If the opening is reduced all the way down, the remaining opening should be greater than 25mm to prevent clothing entrapment.		



Item:	Free Standing Slide		
Finding:	The impact area to the side of the free standing slide is less than the required 1500mm. The actual distance is around 1400mm.		
Risk Level:	Low	Priority:	Low
Action:	Client to determine whether the low level of risk justifies leaving the sandpit size as is.		



Item:	Spinning Pod		
Finding:	There are several places where the gel-coat has worn away on the inside of the spinning pod, exposing the fibreglass. The exposed fibreglass does not pose a hazard at present.		
Risk Level:	Very low	Priority:	Low
Action:	In order to limit further wear and prolong the life of the spinning pod, consideration could be given to applying a new gel-coat.		



Item:	Sky Surfer		
Finding:	One of the nuts on one of the bolts securing the chain to the standing board on the sky surfer is missing.		
Risk Level:	Low	Priority:	Medium
Action:	Replace the missing nut and re-secure the chain to the board.		



Item:	Sky Surfer		
Finding:	Some of the hose covering the chains has torn, exposing the chain, creating a potential finger entrapment hazard.		
Risk Level:	Low	Priority:	Medium
Action:	Replace or repair the damaged hose. (The split sections could be replaced or taped with an appropriate tape to prevent further splitting.)		

The following areas have been assessed for compliance. Non-compliances and maintenance issues are detailed in the preceding pages.



Note: While some items may be identified as non-compliant, a low level of risk may not require any action to be undertaken. A priority rating has been attached to each item identified.

SURROUNDS

Are pathways around playground free of trip hazards (from cracks, etc.)?
Is access from car park appropriate for users of all abilities?
Is the area free of dead overhanging branches that may potentially fall onto the playground?
Are ancillary items (tables, seats, shade structures, fences, gates, etc.) in good repair?

SURFACING

Is the depth of loose-fill surfacing adequate?
Is the surface of unitary surfaces in good repair?
Is the surface free of any trip hazards?
Is the surface and surrounding area free of objects that may cause injury (e.g. broken glass)?

EQUIPMENT (general)

Are the footings adequately covered?
Are the foundations stable and free of movement?
Is the equipment free of protrusions or sharp edges that may be hazardous?
Are all components present and secure?
Is the equipment in good repair (i.e. free from excessive rust, cracked welds, splintering timber, etc.)?
Are all items of equipment within the maximum free height of fall (<3.0m; upper body <2.2m; SECS <1.8m)

PROTECTION AGAINST FALLING

Is the extent of the impact area adequate for the free height of fall?
Is the falling space free of obstacles that could cause injury?
Are barriers, guardrails and handrails appropriate and at the correct heights?
Are openings in the barriers or guardrails less than 800mm in width?

PROTECTION AGAINST ENTRAPMENT

Is the equipment free of head and neck entrapments?
Is the equipment free of finger entrapments?
Is the equipment free of clothing entrapments?
Is the equipment free of whole body entrapments?
Is the equipment free of foot or leg entrapments?

MOVING PARTS

Is the free space adequate for forced movement items?
Is the equipment free of crush or shear points?
Are the chains and connectors free of excessive wear (<40%)
Are moving and 'sealed for life' parts moving freely?