

Preface

The advice and guidance in this risk assessment template is based upon the well-published and communicated advice from the Government and Public Health England. The information and links to the guidance published was correct at the date of publishing. You should check for the latest information updates. **There are no guarantees that following these guidelines will prevent the exposure to, or the spread of, the Coronavirus Covid-19.**

However, as a pandemic develops, this general principle will be tested. Always examining consequences against 'Concept': Your organisation is bound to avoid exposing people to unnecessary risks?

The general principles of risk assessment should guide you through each difficult decision and remind you to evaluate and balance the risks against appropriate control measures. The mantra to guide you through difficult decisions should be "would it have been reasonably practicable to have done more. Remember also to personalise, so far as reasonably practicable, your procedures to your specific workers and those affected by your operations.

Follow all relevant guidance and risk assess carefully including any derogations which imply an exemption from or relaxation of a rule or law, in this case it will be invaluable to be able to point to a written risk assessment or similar document, showing that you have grappled with the issues and sought to balance them, taking into account factors on both sides before reaching a professional informed decision that you will keep under review. Should you be called to review in criminal law, you may need to prove that you have conducted a balancing exercise through specialist health and safety having gained legal advice.

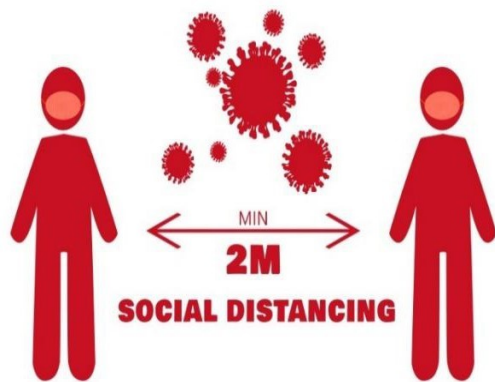
Develop your plans, having taking consideration of the demographics and vulnerabilities of your staff and those impacted by your operations, specific to that work environment.

Monitor and review to consider the changing nature of the contagion and your control measures.

REMEMBER THE CODE

Do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth unless you have washed and sanitised your hands

- Stay at home as much as possible
- Work at home if you can
- Limit contact with other people
- Keep your distance if you go out (2m apart where possible)
- Wash your hands regularly
- If you or anyone in your household has symptoms, you all need to self-isolate



<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



BIN IT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.



NHS

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

COVID -19 RISK ASSESSMENT FOR

South View, Worcester Crescent, Mallow Court, & Jubilee Field enclosed Play Areas.

Reference Number: **WPC/ COVID-01**

Date of Assessment: 08 July 2020	Names of Assessors; Kate Taylor, (WPC Clerk)
<p>Information Gathered From: Government departments and agencies, Health & Safety and Environmental regulators, industry associations and bodies, Public Health England, National Health Service,</p> <p>In particular the latest Guidance available here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms</p> <p>Play Inspection Company: MDDC</p>	
<p>PPE and other safety measures/equipment are supplied to employees only and not to the general public; Hand Sanitiser and anti-bacterial wipes. Access to information and guidance.</p>	

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

Name and Description of Task:

Safe Opening of Play Areas

COVID19, classified as a pandemic virus by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in March 2020, Covid19 is a new, contagious, coronavirus for which there is no current personal immunity within the population or vaccine available. COVID-19 is a contagious disease that can be fatal. The disease can be transmitted from human to human either by inhalation or contact with the eyes, nose and mouth. Information from the WHO, PHE and the NHS has cascaded down onto current UK industries and business sectors by a series of directives and interventions from the UK government. Government and PHE information and guidance has been and is subject to change as new and increased interventions are put into place to control the spread of the virus and this Risk Assessment has been created as a result of new government guidance with specific regard to the opening of Play Areas in Willand.

COVID-19 Secure measures taken by WPC will be in line with government guidelines so far as is practicable and feasible to do so. With the challenge of four unsupervised locations across Willand, it would not be possible to create a sterile play environment to eliminate all the risk of transmission of coronavirus.

The key messages of; Using hand sanitiser before, during and after using the play area, Social distancing, come back later if busy, wash your hands thoroughly when you get home and take your litter home will be communication to the public to make them aware of the risks, and that equipment will not be sanitised regularly. The aim is to encourage people to bring their own wipes to promote cleaning of equipment by users, parents, guardians and carers, particularly where there are clear touch points such as swing rockers, see saws, machine handles and to bring hand sanitiser gel or wipes to clean their children's hands. In addition we will advise members of the public who are in the 'at risk' category not to use the equipment.

LIKELIHOOD (Chances of Occurrence)		SEVERITY (Outcome)	
1	Remote possibility	1	Negligible injury
2	Unlikely	2	Minor injury
3	Possible	3	Serious Injury
4	Very likely	4	Very Serious Injury or Disability
5	Certainty	5	Death or deaths
LOW (1-4)		MEDIUM (5-15)	HIGH (16-25)

Play areas are currently closed. Where possible gates are locked and Closed Signs are in place

What are the hazards and how might they be harmful	Who might be harmed and how many	Risk Rating (No control measures) L x S =	Current Control Measures	Risk Rating (with existing control measures) L x S =	Recommended Improved Control Measures	Modified Risk Rating (with improved control measures) L X S =	Action	Action By & Date + Reference
Direct threat to members of public and equipment users from transmission of coronavirus from person to person	Equipment users and Members of the Public	4 x 5 = 20	Play equipment is regularly inspected / repaired to appropriate playground equipment standards.	3 x 5 = 15	Government guidance available from https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-play-grounds	2 x 5 10	yes	Before opening 01

<p>Direct threat to members of public and equipment users from transmission of coronavirus from person to person</p>			<p>Weekly visual checks of play areas to check signs in place and replace any missing signs and ad hoc as required in response to calls etc</p>		<p>COVID-19 Guidance for managing playgrounds and outdoor gyms 26 June 2020</p> <p>Provide visible information to remind public of PHE Guidance by</p> <p>Signage at entrances and/or around play areas to promote –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compliance with social distancing measures. 2. 'Waiting your turn' signs 3. X 6 max' rules for group sizes of people 4. Advise to return later if too many users 5. Use hand sanitiser frequently and 'Wash hands when you get home' to encourage good hygiene practices 6. 'please take your litter home' 			<p>02</p>
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					<p>Social media campaign –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To encourage those using the play area to only have 1 family member accompanying a child 2. Promote cleaning of equipment by users, parents, guardians and carer's 3. Parents to bring hand sanitiser gel or wipes to clean their children's hands 4 Remind adults and children not to put their hands in their mouths if unclean 5. Promote and remind users, parents, guardians, and carers of the need for social distancing. 6. Promote handwashing 7. Promote stay at home if feeling unwell and do not attend playground area. 8. Where a 2m distance cannot be achieved, a face Mask or face covering is to be worn that covers the nose and mouth and Nitrile Disposable Gloves 			03
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<p>Failure of equipment from prolonged period of play area closures</p>	<p>Equipment users and Members of the public</p>	<p>4 x 5 = 20</p>	<p>WPC Procedures</p>	<p>3 x 5 = 15</p>	<p>In-depth operational /maintenance inspection carried out to check the operation and stability of the equipment by trained and competent staff before opening it up to the public . Restrict use of equipment or access to faulty equipment until repaired or removed from site. Playgrounds which have not had a suitable and sufficient inspection will remain closed until equipment can be confirmed safe to use.</p>	<p>2 x 5 10</p>		<p>04 & 05</p>
<p>Contamination from surfaces when inspecting equipment, repair, and maintenance work</p> <p>Some of the latest research indicates the virus could survive on cardboard for 24 hours, and metal/plastics for up to 72 hours.</p>	<p>Members of public/staff</p>	<p>4 x 5 = 20</p>	<p>WPC Policy and Procedures</p>	<p>3 x 5 = 15</p>	<p>There may be individuals who are themselves infected with Covid-19 touching equipment and bins. Employees are encouraged to avoid contact but if there is a requirement to touch equipment they must clean and sanitise their hands before using any equipment and associated controls. Then wipe the controls with a wipe provided, placing the used wipe in the waste bag</p>	<p>2 x 5 10</p>		

(although on external surfaces is much reduced) contact with potentially contaminated surfaces could take place. Transmission of the virus can be made to the operator causing fatal consequences.					provided PPE use – glove use in particular MUST be enforced Hands and mobile equipment (tablets, mobile phones) to be wiped down regularly and as appropriate and on completion of inspection run or end of working day			
PPE and face coverings If worn incorrectly can create difficult working conditions and also reduce the effectiveness of the mask	All employees	4 x 5 = 20		3 x 5 = 15	PPE issued gloves, face coverings, and controls I.e. gloves discipline 'staff made aware of the limitations of glove use, such as touching their faces whilst wearing gloves which may be contaminated	2 x 5 10		
Risk of increased aggression from public with potential breach of social distancing Increased public frustration may lead to aggression towards staff	All employees	3 x 5 = 15	WPC Policy and Procedures	3 x 5 = 15	In extreme cases members of the public may display aggressive and potentially violent behaviour. All such cases must be reported to the police immediately if they are threatened.	10		
Review Date	08 July 2020			Next Review Date	07 October 2020			

Action Ref	Hazard Keyword	Recommended Action	Person Responsible	Target completion Date	Completed
01	Equipment Inspection	Arrange Inspection/Repair of all equipment prior to opening	Clerk		
02	Signage	Purchase or Provide signage			
03	Social Media	Create social media campaign			
04	Failure of equipment from prolonged period of play area closures .	In-depth operational /maintenance inspection carried out to check the operation and stability of the equipment by trained and competent staff before opening it up to the public			
05	Maintenance program	Introduce and manage inspection visits and schedule maintenance			

