



the **play inspection** company

Annual Inspection

Mid Suffolk District Council

Redlingfield Play Area

Eye, IP23 7QR



API Associate



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RPII Inspection Methodology

This document outlines the RPII position on inspections undertaken by the Inspectors listed on the RPII Register of Inspectors for Indoor Annual, Outdoor Annual, Outdoor Operational and Outdoor Routine.

Inspections are undertaken with reference to the standards listed in this preamble only; where no date for the standard is given it the date of the standard will be that current at the time of inspection with the exception of where overlap periods are granted by the standards committee when standards are updated. The information contained in reports is provided to assist the owner/operator in fulfilling their responsibilities as detailed in the relevant standard. Other standards referenced within the listed standards do not form part of the inspection.

The following standards are relevant to all installations of equipment that are publicly accessible to users; this would include public parks, pay and play parks, schools, nurseries, public houses, holiday parks, indoor play centres, farm parks etc. All equipment used or employed in publicly accessible areas should meet with the requirements of the relevant standards (listed below);

BS EN 1176 Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 & 11 Playground equipment intended for permanent installation outdoors & indoors.

BS EN 1176 Part 7 - 'Guidance on Installation, Inspection, Maintenance and Operation' (this document gives guidance to the owners/operators of the facility on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of playground equipment, including ancillary items).

Domestic play equipment falls outside of the scope of BS EN 1176 and has its own standard (BS EN 71 – Safety of Toys). Where domestic equipment can be identified this will be acknowledged in the report but any comments concerning compliance within the inspection will still refer to BS EN 1176.

Other equipment that is not clearly identified as unsupervised or domestic (natural play, self-build equipment etc.) will be assessed for compliance with the relevant standard listed below:

BS EN 15312 - Free access multi-sports equipment

BS EN 14974 - Skateparks

BS EN 16630 - Permanently installed outdoor fitness equipment

BS EN 16899 - Parkour equipment (plus RPII/API guidance notes)

Annual and Post Installation inspections will take into consideration compliance with current standards and defects related to wear and vandalism. Items not listed in the report have not been included in the inspection. The inspection will cover the playground equipment and the active area up to 3.0 metres around, or the fence line if closer.

Operational inspections only take into consideration defects related to wear and vandalism. Routine visual inspections (if undertaken) relate only to the most obvious defects such as broken or missing parts, vandalism and issues created by severe weather conditions (the intention is to identify hazards created by storm damage).

The inspection is non-dismantling, non-destructive and does not include for any structural, toxicology or impact assessments defined in the standard; however, the inspector will undertake a manual test for stability and if equipment fails under manual load, or any other hazard is identified as an unacceptable risk, the owner/operator will be notified as soon as practicably possible.

The inspector will access all standing surfaces as necessary on the equipment and assess all parts up to 2.5m above the standing surface. Where it is not possible to access parts of the equipment without employing an alternative means of access the report will record the action required by the owner/operator to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment. Ancillary equipment will be assessed using the inspector's knowledge and experience of the standards named in this document to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable the continued safe use of the items concerned. The owner/operator is responsible for the overall safety of the equipment and area. Inspectors who are trained to use ladders may use them where it is safe to do so, but if members of the public are present on-site ladders may not be used to access the equipment.

The inspector will not undertake any of the following works unless specifically agreed in writing at the time of order:

Checking the depth and underlying structural integrity of any surface areas and/or carrying out any testing of impact absorbing properties of any surfaces. The identification of any corrosion, rot or other deterioration in any apparatus or equipment other than by an external inspection or the inspection of any equipment (or part thereof) that is underground. Tightening any bolts, hinges or other fixing devices on any apparatus or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any electrical installations contained on any site and/or apparatus and/or equipment. Assessing or inspecting any water supplies and/or water features and/or any associated computerised systems (including carrying out any programming).

Where planting or trees are mentioned in the report no aboricultural or horticultural assessments of toxicity, suitability or condition are undertaken; the owner/operator should have suitable inspections provided by a competent person.

The owner/operator should have a 'design risk assessment' provided by the manufacturer/designer of the area for the equipment and location in which the facility is installed.

The operator is responsible for managing risks of their provision and is required by law to carry out a 'suitable and sufficient assessment' of the risks associated with a site or activity and this inspection shall be considered as contributing to the operator's discharge of this responsibility.

The details contained within the report are a snapshot of the condition at the time of inspection only and subsequent events may affect the condition of the facility. Suggested remedial actions are based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector and/ or that of the inspection company. The owner/operator should seek the advice of the manufacturer or a competent person at all times when undertaking repairs and/or modifications to equipment.

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Table 1

The operator is responsible for following the guidance of the relevant standards. The standards give guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance and operation of the various types of facilities. The inspection guidance is listed in Table 1, with an indication of which parts will be included in an RPII Annual or Post-Installation Inspection. The relevant standards also contain additional parts which the operator should follow.

Inspection recommendations of relevant standards Refer to relevant standards for full text	Annual Main	RPII Annual Outdoor/ Fully enclosed Inspection
6.1 and 6.2 c) Inspect and maintain in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions (see note 1)	✓	✗ [1]
6.2 a) Identify obvious hazards	✓	✓
6.2 b) Check for operation, stability and wear (see note 2)	✓	✓ [2]
6.2 b) Check sealed for life parts	✓	✗
6.2 b) Check for cleanliness, equipment ground clearances, ground surface finishes, exposed foundations, sharp edges, missing parts, excessive wear (of moving parts) and structural integrity (see note 2)	✓	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of equipment	✓	✓
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of foundations (see note 2)	✓	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Overall levels of safety of surfaces (see note 3)	✓	✓ [3]
6.2 c) Compliance with the relevant parts of the standard (see note 4)	✓	✓ [4]
6.2 c) Undertaking the responsibility of the operator's periodic, systematic assessment of the effectiveness of all their safety measures (BS EN 1176-7, 8.2.1)	✓	✗
6.2 c) Effects of weather	✓	✓
6.2 c) Presence of rot or corrosion (see note 2)	✓	✓ [2]
6.2 c) Assessment of repairs made/added or replaced components (see note 5)	✓	✓ [5]
6.2 c) Excavation/dismantling/additional measures	✓	✗
6.3.1 Assessment of glass reinforced plastics (see note 6)	✓	✓ [6]
6.3.2 Maintenance of one post equipment (see note 2)	✓	✓ [2]

NB The clause numbers in table 1 are taken from BS EN 1176-7. The content is equally applicable to all other relevant standards listed herein.

[1] Playgrounds contain a range of equipment from different manufacturers and installed over a number of years; operators should implement any guidance provided by the manufacturer. Item specific detail is not readily available to RPII Playground Inspectors, whose report contributes to the operator's overall Annual Main Inspection as detailed in the relevant standards.

[2] A manual test only is undertaken for stability. Wear and instability are only detectable where readily apparent without dismantling or destruction and without the use of tools, excavation or specialist equipment. Rot and corrosion are tested for with a hammer and/or steel rod. Decay in timber may exist which can only be found with specialist equipment.

[3] Only the visible condition and dimensional compliance of surface extent is considered. Neither testing of impact attenuating properties nor measurement of the thickness of bound surfaces are undertaken on RPII annual inspections.

[4] The inspection assesses compliance where this can be tested on site using manual methods without dismantling, destruction and without the use of tools or specialist equipment.

[5] The operator should use manufacturer's recommended parts, or equivalent. We are unable to verify if such parts have been used, and any subsequent change in quality or performance.

[6] Visible glass fibres will be noted in reports. The operator is responsible for repairs or replacement.

Risk Assessment Matrix

			Scores in the report are multiplication factors of Likelihood x Severity					
			Severity>>					
Likelihood	Very High probability, if the situation is not addressed an accident is almost certain.	5	Very High	VL (5)	L (10)	M (15)	H (20)	VH (25)
	High probability an accident is probable without any added factor.	4	High	VL (4)	L (8)	M (12)	H (16)	H (20)
	Moderate probability an incident is foreseeable.	3	Moderate	VL (3)	L (6)	L (9)	M (12)	M (15)
	Some probability, requires a combination of factors to take place.	2	Low	VL (2)	VL (4)	L (6)	L (8)	L (10)
	No significant probability; lightning strike, freak accident.	1	Very Low	VL (1)	VL (2)	VL (3)	VL (4)	VL (5)
			Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High	
			1	2	3	4	5	
			No injury likely e.g. damaged or soiled clothing, minor bruising, grazes	Minor injury, laceration or bruising requiring first aid only	Injury requiring medical intervention e.g. cuts requiring stitches	Serious injury including concussions or fracture of long bones	Severe injury involving a potential life changing injury or fatality	
			Severity>>					
<p>Note 1: The total risk scores included within our reports are a multiplication factor of the calculated Likelihood and Severity of each finding. Both Likelihood and Severity are given a number between 1 - 5 as shown on the matrix above and these two numbers are then multiplied together to give the total risk score that is shown against defects on the report. Total risk scores can be divided in both directions, i.e. a total risk score of 12 could be a Likelihood (3) x Severity (4) or Likelihood (4) x Severity (3).</p> <p>Note 2: When we inspect we only see a snapshot of the current condition of the equipment. It is the operators responsibility to ensure that there is a continuing level of maintenance to keep the equipment in good working order and the site fit for use.</p>								

Equipment has been assessed to the following standards where relevant:

- BS EN 1176 Parts 1-11 (Playground equipment and surfacing)
- BS EN 14974 (Facilities for users of roller sports equipment)
- BS EN 15312 (Free access multi-sports equipment)
- BS EN 16899 (Parkour Equipment)
- BS EN 16630 (Outdoor Fitness Equipment).



Redlingfield Play Area

Inspection Ref: 1169217

Site Ref: 73802

Customer Order: N/A

Inspected: 22-August-2020 - 04:34 by Lyn Williams RPII Annual Inspector

Risk Assessment: 9 Low Risk



Location:

The site is located in an area of public open space and is not directly overlooked by any properties in the local community.

Disabled Access:

Some accessible features; an area that presents difficulties to the majority of people with disabilities but in favourable circumstances and certainly in partnership can be accessed.



5 - Very Low Risk

Item: Sign
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: N/A
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

BS EN 1176 Part 7 recommends that signage shall include emergency contact details and contact details of owner / operator for reporting maintenance issues - Provide additional information

8 - Low Risk

Item: Gate
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: Compacted Stone
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 3

Finding 1

There are openings that are less than 12mm that could trap or crush fingers - Where possible a 12mm gap should be maintained on both sides or between the gate leaves

Finding 2

The gate is snagging on the surrounding surface preventing it from closing correctly - Carry out remedial works to ensure the gate closes correctly

Finding 3

There are areas or parts of the timber hanging and slamming posts that have rotted - Replace all affected timbers



i 8 - Low Risk

Item: Gate - Maintenance
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: Compacted Stone
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

There are areas or parts of the timber hanging and slamming that have rotted - Replace all affected timbers

i 8 - Low Risk

Item: Fence - Timber & Mesh Infill
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: Grass
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 3

Finding 1

There are a number of loose posts around the fence - Reset as required

Finding 2

There are areas or parts of the timber on the structure that have rotted - Replace all affected timbers

Finding 3

The fence is damaged in places - Repair or replace all affected sections



i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Bench
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: Compacted Stone
Item Quantity: 2
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

i 8 - Low Risk

Item: Bench
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: Compacted Stone
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 2

Finding 1

The bench is not securely fixed to the surface and there is some possibility of the item tipping or rolling over - Secure the bench to the ground

Finding 2

There is algae or moss on the bench - Clean and treat appropriately



i 4 - Very Low Risk

Item: Picnic Table
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: Compacted Stone
Item Quantity: 2
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

i 8 - Low Risk

Item: Site General
Manufacturer: Not Applicable
Surface Type: N/A
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A



Total Findings: 1

Finding 1

There are loose/damaged items in the play area - Remove the loose/damaged items



i 8 - Low Risk

Item: Basketball Post
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: Tarmac
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: No
Surface Area Compliance: N/A

Total Findings: 4



Finding 1

There is algae or moss growth on the tarmac surface resulting in slippery conditions - Clean and treat appropriately

Finding 2

There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment - Clean and treat appropriately

Finding 3

The backboard is damaged - Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required

Finding 4

A clearly visible facility sign should be provided in a prominent position with the wording as detailed BS EN 15312- the equipment is not intended for children less than 3 years old- the warning - Do not climb on the framework or nets- the warning - Do not hang on the ring (if provided)- the warning - Do not wear rings or other jewellery- name and telephone number of the administrator- number to call in case of accident - Monitor



i 8 - Low Risk

Item: Multi Play (Junior)
Manufacturer: Not Identified
Surface Type: Grass
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: No

Total Findings: 3



Finding 1

The hedge forms a hard object within the falling space of the equipment and there is also insufficient surfacing provided in contravention of BS EN 1176 Part 1 - Cut back the vegetation to provide a minimum of 1.50m unobstructed space

Finding 3

There is/are bolt cap covers missing or damaged on the item - Replace missing or damaged bolt cap covers

Finding 2

There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment - Clean and treat appropriately



i 9 - Low Risk

Item: 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd
Surface Type: Wet Pour
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: No



Total Findings: 7

Finding 1

The surface is lifting at the edges and creating trip points - Repair perimeter of surfacing to remove trip points

Finding 2

There is algae or moss growth on the wet pour surface resulting in slippery conditions - Clean and treat appropriately

Finding 3

There are significant gaps (over 30mm) between the surface and the edging or between the joints in the surface; these are large enough for a small foot to enter - Repair surfacing

Finding 4

The bushes are showing signs of wear - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

Finding 5

The surfacing width under each seat is less than 1.75 metres and fails the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 2 - Monitor - No remedial work recommended

Finding 6

There is some strimmer / machinery damage apparent on the posts, this can penetrate the preservative applied to the timber and accelerate the rotting process - Monitor for any deterioration (rot) and replace as required

Finding 7

There is excrement on the seat - Clean and maintain the seat



Findings information

5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Sign
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: N/A



Finding: BS EN 1176 Part 7 recommends that signage shall include emergency contact details and contact details of owner / operator for reporting maintenance issues
Action: Provide additional information



i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Gate
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Compacted Stone



Finding: There are openings that are less than 12mm that could trap or crush fingers

Action: Where possible a 12mm gap should be maintained on both sides or between the gate leaves

i 5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Ancillary Items - Gate
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Compacted Stone



Finding: The gate is snagging on the surrounding surface preventing it from closing correctly

Action: Carry out remedial works to ensure the gate closes correctly



i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Ancillary Items - Gate
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Compacted Stone



Finding: There are areas or parts of the timber hanging and slamming posts that have rotted
Action: Replace all affected timbers

i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Gate - Maintenance
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Compacted Stone



Finding: There are areas or parts of the timber hanging and slamming that have rotted
Action: Replace all affected timbers



i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Fence - Timber & Mesh Infill

Risk Level: L - Low Risk

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface: Grass



Finding: There are a number of loose posts around the fence

Action: Reset as required

i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Ancillary Items - Fence - Timber & Mesh Infill

Risk Level: L - Low Risk

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface: Grass



Finding: There are areas or parts of the timber on the structure that have rotted

Action: Replace all affected timbers



i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Ancillary Items - Fence - Timber & Mesh Infill

Risk Level: L - Low Risk

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface: Grass



Finding: The fence is damaged in places

Action: Repair or replace all affected sections

i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Bench

Risk Level: L - Low Risk

Manufacturer: Not Identified

Surface: Compacted Stone



Finding: The bench is not securely fixed to the surface and there is some possibility of the item tipping or rolling over

Action: Secure the bench to the ground



i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Ancillary Items - Bench
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Compacted Stone



Finding: There is algae or moss on the bench

Action: Clean and treat appropriately



i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Ancillary Items - Site General
Manufacturer: Not Applicable

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: N/A



Finding: There are loose/damaged items in the play area

Action: Remove the loose/damaged items



i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Multi Use Games Area - Basketball Post
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Tarmac



Finding: There is algae or moss growth on the tarmac surface resulting in slippery conditions

Action: Clean and treat appropriately

i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Multi Use Games Area - Basketball Post
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Tarmac



Finding: There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment

Action: Clean and treat appropriately



i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Multi Use Games Area - Basketball Post
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Tarmac



Finding: The backboard is damaged

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and repair as required



i 5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 4)

Item: Multi Use Games Area - Basketball Post
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Tarmac



Finding: A clearly visible facility sign should be provided in a prominent position with the wording as detailed BS EN 15312- the equipment is not intended for children less than 3 years old- the warning - Do not climb on the framework or nets- the warning - Do not hang on the ring (if provided)- the warning - Do not wear rings or other jewellery- name and telephone number of the administrator- number to call in case of accident

Action: Monitor



i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: The hedge forms a hard object within the falling space of the equipment and there is also insufficient surfacing provided in contravention of BS EN 1176 Part 1

Action: Cut back the vegetation to provide a minimum of 1.50m unobstructed space

i 6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment

Action: Clean and treat appropriately



i 4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior)
Manufacturer: Not Identified

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Grass



Finding: There is/are bolt cap covers missing or damaged on the item

Action: Replace missing or damaged bolt cap covers

i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: The surface is lifting at the edges and creating trip points

Action: Repair perimeter of surfacing to remove trip points



i 8 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: There is algae or moss growth on the wet pour surface resulting in slippery conditions

Action: Clean and treat appropriately

i 9 - Low Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: There are significant gaps (over 30mm) between the surface and the edging or between the joints in the surface; these are large enough for a small foot to enter

Action: Repair surfacing



i 4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 4)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: The bushes are showing signs of wear

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

i 5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 5)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: The surfacing width under each seat is less than 1.75 metres and fails the requirements of BS EN 1176 Part 2

Action: Monitor - No remedial work recommended



6 - Low Risk (Finding 6)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



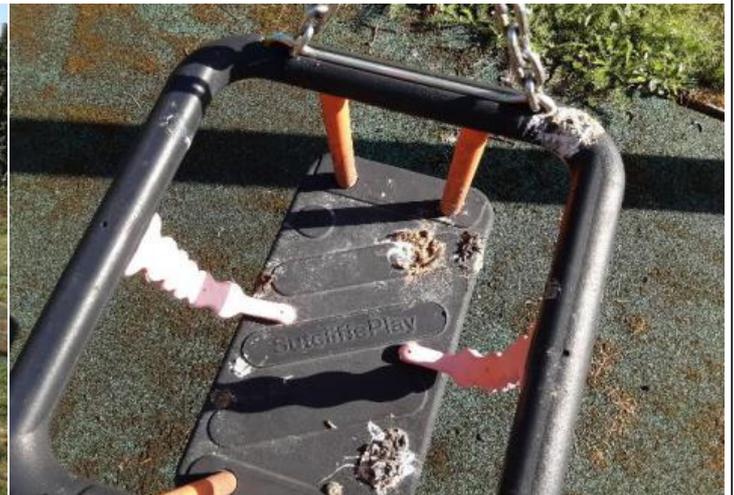
Finding: There is some strimmer / machinery damage apparent on the posts, this can penetrate the preservative applied to the timber and accelerate the rotting process

Action: Monitor for any deterioration (rot) and replace as required

5 - Very Low Risk (Finding 7)

Item: Swings - 2 Bay 2 Flat 2 Cradle
Manufacturer: Playdale Playgrounds Ltd

Risk Level: V - Very Low Risk
Surface: Wet Pour



Finding: There is excrement on the seat

Action: Clean and maintain the seat