

Playground Checklist

How safe is your playground?

EQUIPMENT

YES NO



Fall Height & Fall Zones

Is the fall height less than 1.5m from all items of equipment? (Early Childhood)

Is the fall height less than 2.5m from all items of equipment? (All other settings)

Is there a minimum clearance of at least 2.5m around each item of equipment?

Under-surfacing

Is there impact absorbing material under all items of equipment over 500mm in height? (e.g. sand, pine bark, mulch or synthetic surfacing)

Is the under-surfacing well maintained (at least 300mm deep loose fill material)?



Design Hazards

Is the play area free of head entrapment spaces – openings between 89mm – 230mm? (600mm or more off the ground)

Is any moving equipment free from potential wedging or crushing points?

Are there sturdy guard rails and handrails appropriate to a child's grip size? (16-45mm)

Does the equipment design prevent possible climbing on the outside of the structure?



Maintenance

Is the equipment frame stable and free from movement?

Is the equipment free from rust, cracks or broken items?

Are timber items on the equipment free from rotted or splintered wood?

Is the area free from any protruding bolts or sharp edges on the equipment?

Is the play space area free from loose stones or gravel?

Is the play area free from trip hazards?

Is the play area free from tree branches at eye level or exposed tree roots?

If you answered NO to any of these, the playground could be in need of attention!

If you are unsure speak to your local council or organisation in charge of the playground or contact the Kidsafe WA Playground Advisory Service.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

YES NO

Age appropriate Design

Does the play area have separate areas for different age groups?

YES NO

Is there signage indicating the recommended age groups for equipment provided?

YES NO



Location

Do you believe that the playground area is adequately separated from environmental hazards? (eg. Large bodies of water such as lakes or rivers which are not fenced)

YES NO

Do you believe that the playground is adequately separated from busy roadways?

YES NO



Shade

Are there shade structures or trees offering shade over the playground area?

YES NO

Supervision

Is there some place nearby for adults to sit and easily view children on the equipment?

YES NO

Are there rules posted regarding expected behaviour?

YES NO



Onsite Facilities

Are there facilities such as toilets, drink fountains that are easily accessible from the play area?

YES NO

Is there appropriate access for users with disabilities?

YES NO

Kidsafe WA **Playground Advisory Service** offers a variety of services aimed at improving the safety of WA Playgrounds. Services include education workshops, advice and playground assessments.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Call Kidsafe WA on 9340 8509
or Visit Kidsafe WA at

Godfrey House, Princess Margaret Hospital
Cnr Thomas Street & Roberts Rd, Subiaco
Between 9am - 4pm Monday to Friday.

www.kidsafewa.com.au

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For more information ☎ (08) 9340 8509

Child Safety Information Line ☎ 1800 802 244

Poisons Information Centre ☎ 13 11 26

Disclaimer: This document is a guide only to playground safety. It does not constitute as a regulated playground safety assessment. For comprehensive details on playground safety audits contact Kidsafe WA Playground Advisory Service.