# Coronavirus Risk Assessment for Playgrounds and Outdoor Gyms

This template risk assessment is intended to help you document the risk control measures you have introduced within the workplace to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). It is not a Business Continuity Plan.

You must modify this risk assessment to ensure it reflects your business activities and the specific risks and controls you have in place.

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| Location/Dept: | Date Assessed:  | Assessed by: |
| Task/Activity:Opening playgrounds and outdoor gyms |  | Reference Number: |
|  | Risk rating before implementing control measures |  | Risk rating after implementing control measures |  |
| Activity/Task | Hazard/Risk | Person at Risk | Likelihood (1-5) | Severity (1-5) | Risk/Priority | Control Measures in Place | Likelihood (1-5) | Severity (1-5) | Risk/Priority | Additional Control Measures Required |
| Reopening the playground or outdoor gym | Contracting COVID-19 | EmployeesContractorsMembers of the public | 5 | 5 | 25 | * Employees who feel unwell should stay at home and not attend the premises.
* All equipment will be subject to inspection and maintenance before reopening.
* Hand sanitisers will be provided to maintenance teams to ensure that that they can maintain good hand hygiene throughout the task.
* The frequency of handwashing or sanitising will be increased.
* We will continue to implement the following control measures to mitigate COVID-19 spreading in our working environment:

Keeping the activity time involved as short as possible. Using back-to-back or side-to-side working (rather than face-to-face) whenever possible. Using a consistent pairing system or working in teams if workers have to be in close proximity (defined as being within arm’s length of someone else for a sustained period of time).* COVID-19-related screening questions will be asked of contractors who have been contracted to carry out work on the play and gym equipment and the relevant contractor questionnaire will be completed prior to the start of the work.
* Signage will be erected relating to COVID-19 social distancing and prevention and will include:

The use of a one-way system;The cleaning of equipment before and after use;Outdoor gym users to bring their own towels and hygiene products to wipe down after use;Hand hygiene information, including 20 seconds minimum handwashing; andThe use of the gym and play equipment will be at the user’s risk. * Additional practical measures include:
	+ Moving gym equipment to be at least two metres apart. Where not practical, one metre distance should be maintained with mitigation;
	+ Where practical, introducing a booking system to limit the number of users;
	+ Making reasonable adjustments for vulnerable users; and
	+ Installing floor markings to display social distancing measures.
 |  | 5 |  | Guidance and recommended risk control measures will be sourced directly from the GOV.UK website wherever possible.<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms>Control measures will be revised and updated on a regular basis. |
| Safe use of the playground and outdoor gym equipment | Contracting COVID-19 | EmployeesMembers of the publicContractors | 5 | 5 | 25 | * Where possible, one-way systems will be implemented and marked at the various locations.
* Only one family member will be allowed to accompany a child to use play equipment.
* Some seating areas and play equipment will be marked off in order to maintain social distancing.
* Signs will identify the safe area for queues and waiting areas in order to maintain social distancing. The impact on surrounding spaces will be taken into consideration when deciding the safe location for queues and waiting areas. Consideration will also be made on the impact on those with mobility issues.
* Bins will be provided, and signs will remind users to use the bins or take the litter home. Bins will be emptied every day or more frequently if required.
* Eating or drinking will be prohibited, and signage will be displayed to communicate the rules.
* Parents and responsible adults will be advised to bring their hand sanitisers to wipe children’s hands.
 |  | 5 |  | Guidance and recommended risk control measures will be sourced directly from the GOV.UK website wherever possible.<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>Control measures will be revised and updated on a regular basis. |
| Routine and periodic cleaning and maintenance of playground and outdoor gym | Contracting COVID-19 | EmployeesMembers of the publicContractors | 5 | 5 | 25 | * Scientific advice suggests that the virus can stay on some hard surfaces for several days, but the risk is reduced outdoors due to the effect of UV rays and/or rain. Cleaning regimes will take into consideration the regular touch points on play and outdoor gym equipment.
* Effective sanitation by users will be encouraged through relevant signage.
* Regular cleaning of touch points, including gates, benches, exercise bars and climbing frames.
* Once symptomatic, all surfaces that the person has come into contact with must be cleaned, including:

All surfaces and objects which are visibly contaminated with body fluids; andAll potentially contaminated high-contact areas such as play equipment, gym equipment and toilets. |  | 5 |  | Guidance and recommended risk control measures will be sourced directly from the GOV.UK website wherever possible.<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>Control measures will be revised and updated on a regular basis. |
| Use of the public toilet and good hygiene | Contracting COVID-19 | EmployeesMembers of the publicContractors | 5 | 5 | 25 | * Signs and posters will be used to build awareness of good handwashing technique, the need to increase handwashing frequency and to avoid touching your face, and to cough or sneeze into a tissue which is binned safely, or into your arm if a tissue is not available.
* Social distancing marking will be installed in areas where queues normally form, and we will adopt a limited entry approach, with one in, one out where possible and where this does not increase risk by creating a bottleneck.
* To enable good hand hygiene, hand sanitiser will be available on entry to toilets where safe and practical, and suitable handwashing facilities, including running water and liquid soap and suitable options for drying (either paper towels or hand dryers), will be available.
* There will be clear use and cleaning guidance for toilets, with increased frequency of cleaning in line with usage. Normal cleaning products will be used, paying attention to frequently hand-touched surfaces, and disposable cloths or paper roll will be used to clean all hard surfaces.
* Ventilation will be increased where necessary by opening windows and, where appropriate, doors.
* Special care will be given to cleaning of portable toilets and large toilet blocks.
* A cleaning schedule will be kept up to date and clearly visible.
* Further waste facilities will be provided and emptied regularly.
* Regular reminders will be provided, and signage erected to maintain hygiene standards.
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| Providing and explaining available guidance | Contracting COVID-19 | EmployeesMembers of the publicContractors | 5 | 5 | 25 | * Written communication regarding the latest guidelines will be provided to both workers and members of the public via displayed signage. We will also consider the particular needs of those with protected characteristics, such as those who are hearing or visually impaired.
* Where necessary, these will inform members of the publics that police and the local authorities have the powers to enforce requirements in relation to social distancing and may instruct the public to disperse or leave an area, issue a fixed penalty notice or take further enforcement action.
* The public will be informed that they should be prepared to remove face coverings safely if asked to do so by police officers and staff for the purposes of identification.
 |  | 5 |  | Guidance and recommended risk control measures will be sourced directly from the GOV.UK website wherever possible.<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>Control measures will be revised and updated on a regular basis. |
| PPE and face coverings | Contracting COVID-19 | EmployeesMembers of the publicContractors | 5 | 5 | 25 | * PPE identified to control risks other than COVID-19 will continue to be worn.
* Current guidance indicates that face coverings should not be worn by children under 3 years of age or those who may find it difficult to breathe. Parents should be made aware of the additional risk to using a face covering in the playground and should use their judgement in deciding whether their children should wear a face covering.
* Face coverings should be used properly. Signs will state the need for users to wash their hands before and after taking off face coverings.
* Staff who wish to wear face coverings should be permitted to do so, even though not required. To do so safely, they should:

Wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on, and before and after removing it. When wearing a face covering, avoid touching their face or face covering, as this could contaminate them with germs from their hands. Change their face covering if it becomes damp or if they have touched it. Continue to wash their hands regularly. Change and wash their face covering daily. If the material is washable, wash in line with the manufacturer’s instructions. If it is not washable, dispose of it carefully in the usual waste. Practise social distancing wherever possible.* Individuals who are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service should still self-isolate and follow the government guidance.
 |  | 5 |  | Guidance and recommended risk control measures will be sourced directly from the GOV.UK website wherever possible.<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>Control measures will be revised and updated on a regular basis. |
| Ongoing communication and signage | Contracting COVID-19 | EmployeesMembers of the publicContractors | 5 | 5 | 25 | * Ongoing communications will be made with employees.
* Simple, clear signs will be used with pictures where possible. These will be clear to persons for whom English is not their first language or who are visually impaired.
 |  | 5 |  | Guidance and recommended risk control measures will be sourced directly from the GOV.UK website wherever possible.<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>Control measures will be revised and updated on a regular basis. |

## Risk/Priority Indicator Key

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| Likelihood |  | RISK / PRIORITY INDICATOR MATRIX |
| 1. Improbable / very unlikely |  | LIKELIHOOD | 5 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 |
| 2. Unlikely |  | 4 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 |
| 3. Even chance / may happen |  | 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
| 4. Likely |  | 2 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 |
| 5. Almost certain / imminent |  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Severity (Consequence) |  | SEVERITY (CONSEQUENCE) |
| 1. Negligible (delay only) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Slight (minor injury / damage / interruption) |  | Summary | Suggested Timeframe |
| 3. Moderate (lost time injury, illness, damage, lost care provider) |  | 12-25 | High | As soon as possible |
| 4. High (major injury / damage, lost time care provider interruption, disablement) |  | 6-11 | Medium | Within the next three to six months |
| 5. Very High (fatality / care provider closure) |  | 1-5 | Low | Whenever viable to do so |

## Review Record

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| Date of Review |  | Confirmed by |  | Comments |
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I have read the risk assessment and understand and accept its contents form part of my job role. I will keep myself informed of any changes.

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| Employee Name (Print) |  | Employee Signature |  | Date |
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