



Burston and Shimpling Parish Council

3rd July 2020 – Play Equipment located in the playing field, Crown Green, Burston, Covid-19 Risk Assessment.

The Government have announced that outdoor play areas may reopen from Saturday 4th July 2020. The Government issued guidance is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms/covid-19-guidance-for-managingplaygrounds-and-outdoor-gyms>

The latest publicly available information shows that the risk of Covid-19 in Norfolk is very low but not impossible. Whilst it must be acknowledged that there is some risk of the transmission of Covid-19, it is the view of the Parish Council the play area can safely re-open as outlined below.

Key Principle	Government Guidance	Assessment	Conclusion
General Maintenance Issues following Lockdown	Ensure equipment is safe to use and that risks from damaged or defective equipment are addressed before opening.	The equipment is checked regularly so the risk of defects is low. It has been inspected prior to reopening	There are no general maintenance issues. Weekly maintenance checks will progress as normal

Social Distancing	<p>Put in place measures to support social distancing – 2m or 1m plus risk mitigations. Examples given include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit number of users at any one time • Booking system • Advisory signage • Create waiting areas with barriers 	The equipment is generally well spaced, the only issues may arise in relation to the climbing frame and set of 3 swings	Subject to appropriate signage, there is little more that the Parish Council can do.
Cleaning and Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Users to clean equipment before and after use • Use of hand sanitiser and frequent hand washing • Not to touch your face before or after touching any equipment 	The advisory signage will cover these points. Providing hand sanitiser or hand washing facilities is not an option	It is accepted that there is a small risk of children using the play equipment passing the virus, however this is no greater than them being at school or playing with other children generally.
Face Coverings	These are not a replacement for social distancing and are more appropriate indoors to reduce the risk to others.	Impossible to implement or monitor	This is for the individual to decide not the Parish Council
Additional Measures and Communicating with Parents	<p>Promote responsible behaviour by children, parents, carers and guardians.</p> <p>For example, owners and operators</p>	The provision of signage and messages on social media and the Parish Council website	The steps proposed would mitigate the risks significantly

	<p>should consider putting up signs to make clear to users, parents, guardians and carers that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consumption of food or drink on play equipment or in the playground area is banned • parents, guardians or carers should dispose of all litter including any used protective wear such as face coverings or gloves properly in litter bins, taking it home where a bin is not provided. 	should provide sufficient communication with potential users	
Considering Children with Additional Needs	Take into account the requirements of children with additional needs.	These are risks which can only be assessed by carers/parents or guardians.	The Parish Council are not providers of specialist services for children with additional needs and any risk assessment must be undertaken by carers.