# Wantley Play Area Risk Assessment for Re-opening after Covid 19 restrictions

## Company name: Henfield Parish Council Assessment carried out by: GP/ Recreation and Open Spaces Committee

**Date of next review: End December 2021 or *if Government’s COVID Alert Level changes* Date assessment was carried out: 1st June 2021**

| What are the hazards? | Who might be harmed and how? | What are you already doing to control the risks? | What further action do you need to take to control the risks? | Who needs to carry out the action? | When is the action needed by? | Done |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Touching play equipment including chains, swing seats and poles** | Any user could be at risk of catching Covid-19 by touching a previously infected surface | Playground is open access but notices were placed in areas to advise users from early July 2020 | Signage and public notices to encourage cleaning users; hands before and after use, and publicising this advice including social media messaging   * Regular checks of playground area and responses of public on social media. * Ensure the signage is not removed. * Consideration of more frequent litter bin emptying | Signage to be made and displayed  HPC Website updated and social media posts to warn local people of the safety advice  Works Officer to check signage each week | 1st June 2021 | YES |
| **Social Distancing advice not being followed, due to close proximity of users on swings** | Any user could be at risk of infection from Covid -19 by airborne transmission from other users and by touching areas just touched by an infected person | Advisory notices were placed in areas to advise users from early July 2020 | **Signage and public notices** to encourage keeping 2m social distancing at all times from users of other groups. Where this is not possible, due to age and maturity of users or due to small spaces, 1m+ distance is allowable with mitigation to keep this time to an absolute minimum, and in knowledge it is outdoors.  Advise only **one child on each swing seat** and more spaces between them if there are spare swings  Publicising this advice in the play area and in local media, including social media messaging. Regular checks and review.  Ensure the signage is not removed | Signage to be made and displayed by HPC staff.  Locations- Field gates and play area gate.  Media messaging and website by HPC office staff  Regular checks that signage is still in place by Works Officer | 1st June 2021 | Yes and ongoing |
| **Too many users in area** | Any user would have increased risk of catching infection if in close proximity to others  This includes adult helpers | Advisory notices were placed in areas to advise users from early July 2020 | Signage to advise:  **If the play areas is too busy users should find another alternative place to play** | Signage to be made, posted and checked as above | 1st June 2021 | YES and ongoing |
| **Staff safety during checks on play areas and equipment, Litter emptying and general maintenance of area** | HPC staff could be infected by contact with surfaces or litter that has been touched by an infected member of the public | Staff are already briefed on safe ways of working including use of gloves and regular handwashing | Reminder about gloves and other measures to take when checking the play area and signage and emptying bins | HPC staff in office and Works Officers | 1st June 2021 | YES |
| **Infected people may be in the play area** | Everyone -through proximity with those who have the virus | Advisory notices were placed in areas to advise users from early July 2020 | Notices need to state that **anyone with symptoms should not enter the play area** | Signage to be put on gate and other locations in play area | 1st June 2021 | Yes and ongoing |
| **Discarded litter and potential touch contamination from eating in area** | Anyone who touches litter or bins contaminated by virus related to eating (touching mouth area) | Advisory notices were placed in areas to advise users from early July 2020 | Advise **no eating** in the area to limit litter and also reduce chance of users touching mouth areas and contaminating surfaces of seating, gates and litter bins | Signage on gates to be produced and mounted by HPC staff | 1st June 2021 | Yes and ongoing |

More information on managing risk: [www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/](http://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/)

Published by the Health and Safety Executive 10/19