

FINGRINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL – RECREATION GROUND PLAY AREA

The recreation ground and play area are in Furneaux Lane, Fingringhoe, Essex CO5 7BQ. The area comprises of an enclosed play area, a basketball post and goal, a cantilever swing, and an open area with pitches and 4 goal posts for ball games. Equipment is visually checked by a councillor monthly, by Colchester City Council each quarter and by a qualified inspection service annually. There is also a large car park. All areas are unlit. The site is opened and closed daily between 8am and 8pm

ITEM/AREA	RISK IDENTIFIED	RISK LEVEL	CONTROL
Entrance gates (pedestrian and vehicle)	Personal injury	L	Large metal gates are opened and closed daily. The gates are heavy and unlikely to swing closed on to a pedestrian or vehicle
	Injury to third party	L	Children should be accompanied by an adult. Dogs should be kept on leads
Signage	Personal injury	L	Signage is clear and not in locations that can be walked or driven in to.
Grass/pitch area	Personal injury Trips/falls sprains/obstacles Animal faeces	L	Surface – grass is cut on a regular basis by contractor and checked for wear and tear. Hazards such as broken glass and hardcore could cause injury. Dogs should be kept on leads on the pitches.
Goal posts	Personal injury	L	Goal posts are checked to confirm structure and fixings are sound.
Basketball post, goal and surfaces	Personal injury	L	Equipment is checked to confirm structure and fixings are sound. Surface is checked to ensure area is clear of trip and other hazards.
Cantilever swing	Personal injury	L	Equipment is checked to confirm structure and fixings are sound. Surface is checked to ensure area is clear of trip and other hazards. Use of equipment should be age appropriate.
Play equipment	Personal injury	M	Children should be accompanied by an adult. Use of equipment should be age appropriate.
	Risk to third party or individuals	M	Users must be considerate to other users.
	Entrapment	M	Equipment should all meet the required safety standards.
	Falls	M	Care should be taken when using elevated equipment which is wet.

Reviewed: 19 May 2026

Minute ref: 071/26

Next review: May 2027

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Litter bins	Personal injury	L	Bins are fixed into the ground and emptied weekly by CCC.
	Risk to health	L	Ensure site is kept litter free
Fencing & gate	Personal injury	L	Wooden fencing around play area installed 2019/2020 and some areas fixed pr replaced in September 2024. Fencing is checked to confirm structure and fixings are sound. Low level fencing around car park prevents vehicles driving on the pitches/grass area. Gates are checked to ensure they soft close.
Seating	Personal injury	L	Seating is checked to confirm structure and fixings are sound.
Security	Personal injury/abduction	L	The whole area is in a secluded rural location and is surrounded by fields and woodlands. The area is not within the view of any properties and is unlit. Children should be accompanied by adults.
Trees	Personal injury	L	The trees are inspected by a professional arboriculturist every two years and any advisory work carried out. Trees around the play area are checked during routine playground inspections. Other trees are visually checked on an ad hoc basis when areas are visited.
Fire/Arson	Personal injury	L	Some equipment and structures are flammable.
Vandalism	Personal injury	L	Vandalism could cause equipment to become unsafe. Regular inspections will highlight any issues. Visitors

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			encouraged to report any issues. Signage at the gate area advises the Council is responsible for the Recreation Ground.
Surface in play area	Personal injury Trips/falls/sprains/obstacles	L L	Surface is a mixture of bark chippings and grass. Surface is inspected for holes and uneven surface. Additional bark would be purchased as needed. Dogs are not allowed in the play area.

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