

Health & Safety Schools Newsletter



From: Doug Brady - Health & Safety Advisor

To: All schools

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Corporate Services

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Playground and Outside Sport Equipment



Now that the warmer weather has arrived pupils will want to play on your outside playground equipment and some physical education lessons may take place outside.

Risk Assessments will need to be required to ensure that **adequate** levels of supervision are in place. It is essential that staff who are given responsibility for moving and assembling physical education equipment are given suitable induction into safe lifting techniques.

Setting up of equipment like the netball posts should not be carried out by pupils and pupils should be kept clear of equipment until it is securely in place

As well as an annual certified detailed inspection carried out by a competent person, you should have your own checking procedures in place so as to prevent injury from damaged or unsafe equipment. Prior to the start of each term an operational inspection by the site controller/caretaker should take place to check the operation, stability, wear etc of the equipment.

The results of the inspection should be recorded which should be available for examination if required. Routine visual inspections should be carried out by the site controller or by a playground supervisor to identify any hazards for example: vandalism, weather damage, broken glass etc. The frequency of these visual inspections will be determined by such factors as the security of the site and the location of the equipment.

Please get in contact if you require any assistance with this matter.

Further information can be found using these links:

<http://boris.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/05-school-premises-management.pdf>

<http://boris.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/07-physical-education-and-organised-games.pdf>