

## Play Area / Equipment Inspections

All the Parish Council's play areas (Iver Fenced Play Area, Iver Heath Fenced Play Area and Richings Park Fenced Play Area) as well as the other play and outdoor gym at both recreation grounds is inspected daily to mitigate any risk to users of damaged equipment. Areas are litter picked daily as well to mitigate, as best as possible, the risk to harm caused by litter including smashed glass or dangerous drink cans / objects etc.

The Council's Risk Assessment and Risk Management Policy (last updated February 2020) at Section 1B(b) states that '*Playground equipment is checked independently by parish council staff weekly and RoSPA/NPFA do an annual check.*'

The RPII (Register of Play Inspectors International) <https://www.playinspectors.com/> details 4 levels of inspection:

<b>Visual</b> <i>(Internal completed by all staff)</i>	As it says, a visual check around every piece of equipment for visible defects and safety issues.
<b>Routine</b> <i>(Internal completed by Grounds Maintenance Team)</i>	A more detailed check that includes checking the physical operation of the piece of equipment and that it is in good working order.
<b>Operational</b> <i>(Internal completed by Deputy clerk and Deputy Head Groundsman)</i>	A detailed inspection (carried out by accredited RPII Outdoor Operational Inspectors) looking at all aspects of equipment and users safety. <i>Outdoor Operational Inspectors are only qualified to undertake outdoor monthly / quarterly and daily / weekly inspections.</i>
<b>Annual</b> <i>(External completed by RPII Accredited Outdoor Annual Inspector)</i>	Largely as above but carried out by an accredited Outdoor Annual Inspector. A full report is provided to the owner / operator of the play area. <i>Outdoor Annual Inspectors are qualified to undertake all outdoor inspections including post installation and annual inspections.</i>

In September 2021, with the introduction of weekend resource, a Visual inspection and litter picking is carried out every day of the week with the exception of Bank Holidays. Previous to this, inspections were carried out Monday to Friday.

A Routine inspection is carried out on a weekly basis.

Following the accreditation of the Deputy Clerk and Deputy Head Groundsman in March 2023 as RPII Accredited Outdoor Operational Inspectors, a programme of quarterly Operational inspections has been implemented with the first inspection carried out in

March at Richings Park Play Area and Iver & Iver Heath to be carried out by the end of April which incidentally will be ahead of the Annual Inspection which will be carried out in May 2023 by accredited RPII Inspectors – this is likely again to be RoSPA Playsafe based on the cost of inspections which has not increased year on year.

With the Deputy Clerk and Deputy Head Groundsman accredited as a result of upskilling, further upskilling will take place by the end of Quarter 1 of 2023/24 with the two Grounds operatives attending a refresher Routine Inspection course and the Caretaker attending a Visual Inspection course.

**Jeremy Day**  
**Deputy Clerk**  
March 2023