

Keeping your playground safer and compliant

Playground compliance essentials for schools

Does your school:

- Have a completed risk assessment for each playground on file?
- Conduct playground checklist inspections each term and keep these inspection records?
- Record any testing, repairs or modifications conducted on your playgrounds?
- Complete maintenance as per the manufacturer's schedule (supplied at installation)?
- Review playground incidents and inspections and record any actions taken?

Do playground supervising staff:

- Complete a visual inspection prior to play?
- Understand how the equipment should be used?
- Provide active supervision of the students and stop high risk play?
- Know the number of students allowed on equipment at one time (based on manufacturers guide)?
- Know the injury risks and how to limit them?
- Know how to report maintenance issues/hazards?

Have students been:

- Made familiar with the equipment and shown the correct use?
- Told safety rules?
- Shown out of bounds or no access areas?

Playground inspections schedule

When	Who	Inspection
Daily (visual)	Person or teacher on duty	Visual inspection of all equipment for obvious hazards including dangerous objects, animal fouling, vandalism).
Weekly (operational)	Schools officer	Inspection of equipment components including bolts, nail heads, raking of impact absorbing material and sandpits.
Each term	Two officers of the school (Principal, Business manager, schools officer)	Thorough inspection of all play equipment and using health and safety inspection checklist: Playground maintenance
Annually: AS4685 specifies a comprehensive annual inspection shall be carried out to establish the overall level of safety of the equipment, foundations and playground surfaces.		