

Wistow Parish Council

Playground Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the safe, inclusive, and responsible use of the playground facilities owned and managed by Wistow Parish Council. It sets out how the Council maintains and manages the playground to safeguard users, especially children, while promoting outdoor play and community wellbeing.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all users of the playground located at Oaklands Avenue, Wistow, and covers all play equipment, seating, fencing, and associated areas within the playground boundary.

3. Responsibilities

- Wistow Parish Council is responsible for the management, inspection, and maintenance of the playground.
- The Council will ensure all play equipment complies with relevant safety standards (e.g. BS EN1176).
- The Council will engage qualified inspectors to carry out formal annual inspections.
- The Council Clerk or appointed officer will ensure reports are recorded, and remedial work is completed promptly.

4. Use of the Playground

- The playground is intended for the use of children and adults. Some items have a recommend age of use and these are indicated on the item.
- Children must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times.
- Equipment must be used only for its intended purpose and within safe limits.
- No smoking, vaping, alcohol, or drugs are permitted within the playground area.
- No dogs (except assistance dogs) are permitted within the play area.
- No electric scooters or mechanical items are permitted within the play area.
- Users are asked to keep the area clean and use the litter bins provided.
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5. Safety and Maintenance

- The playground will be inspected:
 - Monthly by a Council member or designated person.
 - Every 6 months by a qualified operational inspector
 - Annually by an independent ROSPA-approved inspector.
- Inspection reports will be kept on record for a minimum of 3 years.
- Any hazardous equipment will be taken out of use immediately until repaired or replaced.
- Clear signage will be displayed at the site indicating:
 - Council ownership
 - Emergency contact details

Prepared by	Clerk	Approved by	Full Council
Implemented	November 2025	Next Review Date	May 2026

- Age and supervision guidance
- Rules for safe use

6. Risk Management

- A risk assessment will be maintained and reviewed annually.
- Any incidents or accidents must be reported to the Parish Clerk as soon as possible.
- The Council's insurance policy will cover the playground and equipment for public liability.

7. Community Conduct

- All users are expected to behave in a respectful and considerate manner.
- Vandalism, antisocial behaviour, or misuse of equipment will be reported to the police.
- The Council encourages residents to report concerns or damage promptly to the Clerk.

8. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if required by changes in legislation, inspection recommendations, or local circumstances.

Adopted by: Wistow Parish Council

Date: 25.11.25

Next Review: May 2026

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Implemented	November 2025	Next Review Date	May 2026