

Revised in this format June 2016.

CRAMOND PS RISK BENEFIT ASSESSMENT

Overview of Risk-Benefit Assessment

Project/ proposal name:	Cramond Primary School Playground	
Type of assessment	Post-installation	
Assessor:	Cramond Primary School Senior Leadership Team (Lyndsy Adam & Helen Donaldson)	
	<i>Date</i>	24th January 2017
Description and location of facility, feature, activity or equipment:		
	<p>School Playground at 4 Cramond Cres including the wildlife garden, fixed play equipment and landscaping (known as Our PLACE) which all form the playground. Activities included in the assessment are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timber Sleeper Wall (referred to in RoSPA as Jumping Wall) 2. Climbing Net 3. Rope Bridge 4. Switch Back Ramp 5. Boulders 6. Terraced Rock Area (referred to in RoSPA as Tiered Rocks) 7. Sand Play 8. Tunnel Mound and Slide 9. Tyre Seating Climbing Walls 10. Amphitheatre 11. Rock Wall & Climbing Ropes 12. Wildlife Garden 13. Loose Parts 14. Tarmacadam and other non-landscaped areas 15. Trim Trail & Balance Beams 16. Willow Structures 17. Multiplay Ship 18. Terraced Sliding Area (referred to in RoSPA as Slopes for Sliding and Rolling) 19. Climber Ramp & Rope 20. General Logs 	
Date to review risk-benefit assessment:		
	February 2017	
Signature of senior worker/manager:		
	Helen Donaldson	

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The following table gives examples of the benefits of play provision (as detailed in the publication “Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide”. Specific benefits for each activity included in this assessment are detailed in the subsequent pages.

Table 1 – Examples of the benefits of play provision

Table 1: Examples of the benefits of play provision

Benefit	Comment
Places to play	Children need and have the right to play, and play provision offers them places where they can play freely in the ways they choose, without direction from adults.
Space to meet and hang out	Children and young people actively seek out places to meet and hang out, and facilities for them are high on the list of local priorities in many neighbourhoods. There is wide spread agreement that in many areas, young people in particular have a poor choice of leisure activities.
Space to have fun	Like adults, children need to enjoy their lives, to have times and spaces where they can simply have fun. Good play environments offer a wide range and choice of play experiences.
Support for parents and carers	Good, accessible play provision helps parents and carers extend their children’s play experiences. It can help to reduce conflict and relieve stress levels inside the home by providing other places where children spend their time.
A community gathering point	Centrally located play facilities can bring different age groups together and foster interactions and connections between children, and between children and adults. Good multi-functional provision can help to build neighbourliness and a sense of community.
A chance to encounter nature	Children value the chance to interact with nature, and such experiences help them to appreciate the importance of the natural world and the environment. There is growing evidence of the health benefits of access to green, outdoor environments.
A place to make friends	The opportunity to make friends and develop friendships is one of the most important experiences in childhood. In addition to this, such opportunities help children build their confidence and social competences.
Encourages physical activity	Most children are naturally physically active when they play out of doors. Comparative studies have shown that children can be as active in spontaneous outdoors play as in structured sport activities.
Learning how to manage risks	Rich, challenging, engaging play environments allow children to test themselves and explore their abilities. They can learn the penalties of misjudging a risk – or simply having bad luck – in managed environments that reduce the likelihood of serious harm.
Developing a sense of one’s abilities	Self-directed play experiences give children the opportunity to try out for themselves ways to solve problems and achieve goals, without the interference of adults. These experiences are likely to foster children’s abilities and resilience.
Catering for the adventurous	Some children and young people actively seek out risky situations. Play provision can give them the chance to satisfy their search for excitement in a managed context, potentially reducing the risk that these children will spend time in truly dangerous environments.

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Cramond playground was developed into 'Our PLACE' after consideration to the policy framework set out by the Scottish Government in their document 'Play Strategy for Scotland – Our Vision' and the City of Edinburgh Council Play Strategy document.

These documents set the underpinning values and principles that Our PLACE embraces.

The Play Strategy for Scotland states that 'the workforce should universally emphasise the value of risk through play. Practitioners should be bold in providing challenging play opportunities, managed through risk benefit assessment. Taking a controlled risk and seeing it pay off is essential to becoming a confident individual'

The CEC Play Strategy appendix 4 3.7 states that 'heads of establishment should take a risk benefit approach to the improvement of school grounds, and maintain a dynamic risk assessment of the facility and its use.'

Cramond have large grounds with a wide and varied use of space and type of terrain. There are varied degrees of challenge throughout the grounds, some deliberately challenging to promote pupil Health & Wellbeing.

Cramond use the document 'Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide (2nd edition)' to guide us in our assessments. This document provides the summary statement 'children need and want to take risks when they play. Play provision aims to respond to these needs and wishes by offering children stimulating, challenging environments for exploring and developing their abilities. In doing this, play provision aims to manage the level of risk so that children are not exposed to unacceptable risks of death or injury.'

In Cramond pupil break times equate to at least 1hour (1hr 15mins for P1 & 2) in school day of 5hrs 25mins. This is a significant portion of the learners experience and opportunities for purposeful, valuable and rich learning through play, must in the school's opinion be planned for. Under Rights Respecting Schools (RRS) from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 31 (leisure, play and culture) every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities). Teaching professionals and parents know how directly experience in playground (positive or negative) impacts on child's readiness and ability to learn in the classroom. Our values of inclusion respects, tolerance and fairness are fostered in Our PLACE.

The overarching risk from the play that Our PLACE encourages and embraces comes from the higher risk landscaping elements as there is risk of harm to users, harm to others and ultimately loss of reputation to the provider, in this case Cramond PS and City of Edinburgh Council. However, whilst the risks are real, the perception of them is often higher than the reality and should be balanced against the benefits of outdoor play.

The following risk benefit analysis sets out the risks as currently assessed and the measures in place which result in these risks being acceptable in the eyes of the Head Teacher who has responsibility for Health and Safety.

In terms of the Curriculum for Excellence, specifically the Health and Wellbeing experiences and outcomes (HWB 0.16a, 0.21a, 0.25a, 1.16a, 1.21a, 1.25a, 2.16a, 2.21a, 2.25a, 3.16a, 3.21a, 3.25a). More specifically across all levels children are 'learning to assess and manage risk, to protect myself and others, and to reduce the potential for harm when possible.

Cramond PS commission an annual RoSPA inspection with a further 3 quarterly inspections of play equipment. RoSPA assess the play provision against EN1176 2008 standards. This document is intended for public play parks but does encompass landscapes under play equipment. Furthermore, EN1176 is specific to unsupervised playgrounds, whilst Cramond have to consider Our PLACE out with school hours the primary purpose of this document is to consider risks through use during school hours by pupils. In our assessments we have drawn out the principles of EN1176 however we have not aimed for blind compliance but a sensible understanding leading to a sensible application of the principles. Specifically Part 1, 3 and 7 have been considered in relation to Our PLACE.

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Risk Benefit Statement - In play provision risk is often beneficial if not essential. Children and young people enjoy challenging and adventurous play activities where they can test themselves and extend their abilities. Giving children the chance to encounter hazards and take risks provides other benefits, such as the chance to learn how to assess and manage these and similar risks for themselves. Hence accidents are not necessarily a sign of problems due to the value of such experiences in a child's learning.

Decisions in this document and daily on the use of Our PLACE are based on everyday experience, skills and knowledge. On-going evaluation and dynamic risk assessments occur on a daily basis.

Whilst each area requiring a Risk Benefit statement is considered individually the following table provides an overview of the management and monitoring that applies to all areas of the playground.

Inspection	The playground has a thorough weekly check which is documented, this is carried out on a Monday.
	Daily checklists are completed and documented
	Quarterly inspections of fixed play equipment by RoSPA
	Annual inspection and report by RoSPA commissioned by Cramond PS
Maintenance	Planned maintenance from meetings with Playground Sub-group upon assessment of inspections.
	Re-active and proactive maintenance where deemed necessary due to inspections or lessons learned through review of any accident, incident or near miss.
Review of Accidents	Accidents reporting process clear with staff and complies with CEC policy
	Accidents entered on SHE portal are reviewed by Senior Leadership Team within Cramond and any steps or adjustments taken and disseminated as required.
Feedback	Staff regularly consulted and asked for feedback.
	Parents invited to play and feedback sought.
	H&S is on team meeting agendas.
	Meetings timetabled regularly and minutes taken.

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1. Timber Sleeper Wall

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climbing up the protruding ends of the sleepers that make up the wall builds agility, strength and coordination. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self-esteem. • Awareness of a sense of height. • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Social interaction through group play. • Engaging with natural materials (timber and gravel) • Pleasure and fun • Learning through experience: accidents from which one might learn. • Potential for incorporation into imaginative games. • Mixing between the age groups and gender. • Increased opportunity to gain transferable life skills around keeping themselves and others safe. • Improve the ability of children to enjoy a quality learning and teaching experience inside of school as a direct result of fulfilling and purposeful paly at break times.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>)::</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height during busy periods. The children may play a game of attempting to push each other off, which may lead to an unprepared child being pushed off, deliberately or accidentally. Injuries sustained may involve broken bones and complex fractures. Head injuries could be sustained if falling upon the timber edging.</p> <p>Risk of repetitive strain to joints and limbs if repeated and consistent leaping from the wall to the impact</p>

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	<p>attenuating surface (IAS) below. The IAS is compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on the wall or nearby, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p> <p>It will be ensured that any ice is removed from the wall and gritting/salting carried out.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. However, should children crowding at the top of the sleeper wall this will increase the risk of a child being pushed or falling accidentally. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control. Morning breaks and lunch breaks are staggered to reduce the numbers of children in the playground at any one time. Morning supervision has been introduced from 8.30 until 8.50.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Climbing structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children's play and feature in almost every children's playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The timber sleeper wall presents a low risk to users. The risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>Impact area is being extended to a minimum of 1.5 meters from the wall and the IAS is being replaced with the 'Safe Gravel™' in June 2016.</p>

Options for managing the risk:

- Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement.
- Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the wall or thinning of the impact attenuating surface. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time.
- Monitor the situation – The unit is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work will be undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards.
- Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has already been installed and modified to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to prevent a measure of control against overcrowding. Staggered break times also act as a control measure. No further mitigation is identified as being necessary.
- Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.

Ongoing management and monitoring:

- An impact attenuating surface (IAS) has been installed at the base of the wall which complies with the dimensional requirements of EN 1176. The primary purpose of IAS is to protect the head in the event of a fall – it may also reduce the severity of other injuries.
- The condition of the gravel is monitored to ensure the gravel remains topped up to acceptable levels and that no hard objects have been placed into the gravel.
- Supervisors monitor the children's behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users.
- Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded.
- The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment.
- It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out.
- The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

2. Climbing Net

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climbing up the net agility, strength and coordination. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self-esteem. • Awareness of a sense of height. • Working out how to negotiate the net adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Social interaction through group play. • Potential for co-operation and team work • Pleasure and fun • Learning through experience: accidents from which one might learn. • Potential for incorporation into imaginative games. • Mixing between the age groups and genders. • Learning to access a challenging environment safely provides extensive life skills. • Physical play and reflective opportunities.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>)::</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height during busy periods onto the net. The children may be involved in a game of chase and injure themselves if they lose their footing or hand hold on the rope. If multiple users on the cargo net then children could be deliberately or accidentally hurt by another child’s actions. Injuries sustained may involve broken bones and rope burns to bare skin. Head injuries could be sustained if falling upon the timber edging.</p> <p>The maximum free height of fall is reasonably low, due to the angle of the net, and the risk is controlled by the addition of an impact attenuating surface compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008.</p>

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Local factors:	The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control. Morning breaks and lunch breaks are staggered to reduce the numbers of children in the playground at any one time. Morning supervision has been introduced from 8.30 until 8.50.
Precedents &/or comparisons:	<p>Climbing structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children's play and feature in almost every children's playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
Decision:	The climbing net presents a low risk to users. The risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.
Actions taken:	Impact area is being extended to a minimum of 1.5 metres from the net at all points and the IAS currently used is being replaced with 'Safe Gravel™'. The area is 'up' only during school hours.
Options for managing the risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand 'do nothing' implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the climbing net or thinning of the impact attenuating surface. There is no

	<p>monetary cost to 'do nothing', but this is likely to lead to problems in time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the situation – The unit is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work will be undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. This will be inspected by a suitably experienced person whose main knowledge is of EN standards. • Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has already been installed and modified to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to prevent a measure of control against overcrowding. Staggered break times also act as a control measure. No further mitigation is identified as being necessary. • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An impact attenuating surface (IAS) has been installed at the base of the wall which complies with the dimensional requirements of EN 1176. The primary purpose of IAS is to protect the head in the event of a fall – it may also reduce the severity of other injuries. • The condition of the gravel is monitored to ensure the gravel remains topped up to acceptable levels and that no hard objects have been placed into the gravel. • Supervisors monitor the children's behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is

combined with high numbers of users.

- Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded.
- The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment.
- It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out.
- The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.
- Continue to involve children in regular safety discussions.

3. Rope Bridge

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climbing up the steps to the bridge and balancing across it then down the other side builds agility, strength and coordination. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing and balancing, building self-esteem. • Awareness of a sense of height. • Balancing adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Social interaction through group play. • Engaging with natural materials (timber and gravel) • Pleasure and fun • Learning through experience: accidents from which one might learn. • Potential for incorporation into imaginative games. • Mixing between the age and gender groups.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>)::</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height. The children may play a game of attempting cross on the wrong side of the bridge or hang from the bridge, which may lead to an unprepared child being pushed off, deliberately or accidentally. Children underneath may also be injured. Injuries sustained may involve broken bones and complex fractures. Head injuries could be sustained if falling upon the timber edging from the bridge.</p> <p>Although the maximum free height of fall is reasonably high compared to the size of the user, and the risk is controlled by the addition of an impact attenuating surface compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008.</p> <p>The risk is further controlled by a one way system in place and supervision of the area.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on the steps up</p>

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	<p>to or nearby the bridge, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p> <p>It will be ensured that any ice is removed from the wall and gritting/salting carried out.</p>
Local factors:	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. However the entrance to the rope bridge is on a platform which may lead to children crowding at the top of the entrance to the rope bridge. This will increase the risk of a child being pushed or falling accidentally. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control. Morning breaks and lunch breaks are staggered to reduce the numbers of children in the playground at any one time. Morning supervision has been introduced from 8.30 until 8.50.</p>
Precedents &/or comparisons:	<p>Climbing structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children's play and feature in almost every children's playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
Decision:	<p>The rope bridge presents a low risk to users. The risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
Actions taken:	<p>The IAS has been upgraded below the rope bride and the rocks and boulders in the vicinity of the rope bridge have been rounded to 3mm.</p>
Options for managing the risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and

	<p>therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the wall or thinning of the impact attenuating surface. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time. ● Monitor the situation – The unit is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work will be undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard use of a standard item, this inspection should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. ● Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has already been installed and modified to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to prevent a measure of control against overcrowding. Staggered break times also act as a control measure. No further mitigation is identified as being necessary. ● Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An impact attenuating surface (IAS) has been

management and monitoring:	<p>installed underneath the rope bridge which complies with the dimensional requirements of EN 1176. The primary purpose of IAS is to protect the head in the event of a fall – it may also reduce the severity of other injuries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The condition of the gravel is monitored to ensure the gravel remains topped up to acceptable levels and that no hard objects have been placed into the gravel.• Supervisors monitor the children’s behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users.• Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded.• The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment.• It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out.• The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.
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4. Switch Back Ramp

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working your way up the switch back ramp or climbing over the logs which line the ramp builds agility, strength and coordination. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self-esteem. • Awareness of a sense of height. • Jumping, running and climbing over different surfaces adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Social interaction through group play. • Engaging with natural materials (timber and gravel) • Pleasure and fun • Learning through experience: accidents from which one might learn. • Potential for incorporation into imaginative games.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>)::</p>	<p>There is a risk of slipping on the logs is they are excessively wet or algae is present. The children may play a game of attempting to push each other off or down the logs, which may lead to an unprepared child being pushed off, deliberately or accidentally. Injuries sustained may involve broken bones. Head injuries could be sustained if falling upon the logs.</p> <p>No logs are near 600mm in height and are all rounded.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on the logs or path, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p> <p>It will be ensured that any ice is removed from the path and or logs and gritting/salting carried out.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. This will lower the risk of a child being pushed or falling accidentally. Supervision is in</p>

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	place to provide a measure of control. Morning breaks and lunch breaks are staggered to reduce the numbers of children in the playground at any one time. Morning supervision has been introduced from 8.30 until 8.50.
Precedents &/or comparisons:	Climbing structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.
Decision:	The switch back ramp presents a low risk to users. The risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.
Actions taken:	The logs will be scored to reduce the likelihood of slipping or falling onto the logs or path.
Options for managing the risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the logs or when inclement weather effects the surface. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time. • Monitor the situation – The switch back ramp is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work will be undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and

	<p>Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigate or manage the risk - the risks are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to prevent a measure of control against overcrowding. Staggered break times also act as a control measure. No further mitigation is identified as being necessary. • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The condition of the whindust on the switch back ramp path is monitored to ensure the path remains topped up to acceptable levels and that no hard objects have been placed into the gravel. • Supervisors monitor the children’s behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users. • Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded. • The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment. • It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out. • The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

5. Boulders

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear demarcation of areas of the playground. • Ability to jump from one boulder to another. • Seating areas to provide solitude for lone sitters, or space to congregate in social groups. • Varied textural finish to build agility and coordination. • Awareness of a sense of limited height above the surrounding ground. • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Social interaction through group play. • Engaging with natural materials (stone/rocks) • Development of self-confidence and well-being. • Mixing between different age ranges. • Good potential for some unpredictability and therefore challenge. • Pleasure and fun. • Scope for use in imaginative play.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>Children may collide with boulders by falling from one to another or by tripping into them, especially head first. Sharp edges are commonplace in the built environment, in places such as the corner of the school building where children can run past and fall into the wall, but the boulders are placed such that children are more likely to encounter them.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on the boulders or nearby, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p> <p>It will be ensured that any ice is removed from boulders and rocks and gritting/salting carried out.</p> <p>There is a risk of falling from height. The British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 allows for falls from this</p>

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	height onto IAS.
Local factors:	The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. This means it is less likely that large numbers of children may congregating on or near the boulders. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against overcrowding.
Precedents &/or comparisons:	<p>Boulders have seen a resurgence in children's playgrounds across the country, especially since the Playbuilder and Play Pathfinder projects from 2008 to 2010. They have been used successfully in numerous playgrounds across the country, without any documented trend of serious incidents.</p> <p>Hard edges are an inevitable part of the built environment, and are present in features such as the corner of the existing school building.</p> <p>It is reasonable to reduce the sharpness of sharp edges where found, but it is not considered to be reasonable to pad or soften every surface.</p> <p>The playground prior to the installation of the boulders had hard surfaces, most notably the macadam surface. The absence of interesting features such as the boulders led to children running around, with subsequent risk of head injury in the vent of collision or tripping. With the boulders (and other parts of the playground) the children are more engaged with the play space and the risk of collision and tripping is reduced.</p>
Decision:	The boulders generally present a low risk to users, the risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.
Actions taken:	The sharp edges of all boulders and rocks on site have been rounded off.

Options for managing the risk:

- Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by the activity are all available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement.
- Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the boulders. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time. However, significant damage to boulders is unlikely to occur and it is only through significant damage that sharp edges are likely to accrue.
- Monitor the situation – The activity is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. A daily visual inspection will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work undertaken when problems arise. Further Operational and Annual inspections will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards.
- Mitigate or manage the risk – the unit has already been installed and/or modified to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control, but it can bring risks with it, including children slipping from the sudden intervention of a supervisor. During icy spells it will be necessary to grit/salt the play surfaces or otherwise render them out of bounds. This is currently done through dynamic risk benefit assessment, which all staff have received guidance

	<p>in to ensure it is undertaken whenever necessary. The system used to take areas out of use is familiar to all pupils – the cone and red flag. The cost is minimal as the routine inspections are already being undertaken, and the cost of grit/salt is low.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The edges of all boulders and rocks on site have been rounded off to a radius of 3mm or more so that the energy of any possible impact is spread over a wider part of the body. • Supervisors monitor the children’s behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users. • Children discuss and visit the playground with a teacher at beginning of the school year. Playground behaviour is included in weekly assemblies. • Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded. • The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment. • It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out. • The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

6. Terraced Rock Area

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear demarcation of areas of the playground. • Ability to jump from one boulder to another. • Seating areas to provide solitude for lone sitters, or space to congregate in social groups. • Varied textural finish to build agility and coordination. • Awareness of a sense of limited height above the surrounding ground. • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Social interaction through group play. • Engaging with natural materials (stone/rocks) • Development of self-confidence and well-being. • Mixing between different age ranges. • Good potential for some unpredictability and therefore challenge. • Pleasure and fun.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>Children may collide with boulders by falling from one to another or by tripping into them, especially head first. Sharp edges are commonplace in the built environment, in places such as the corner of the school building where children can run past and fall into the wall, but the boulders are placed such that children are more likely to encounter them.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on the boulders or nearby, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p> <p>It will be ensured that any ice is removed from boulders and rocks and gritting/salting carried out.</p> <p>There is a risk of falling from height. The maximum free height of fall is below 0.6 metres, which is reasonably low. The British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 allows for</p>

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	falls from this height onto hard surfaces.
Local factors:	The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. Which means it is less likely that large numbers of children will be congregating on or near the boulders. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against overcrowding. On the other hand, the presence of the boulders reduces the open space nature of the site, which will reduce the ability of children to run around unhindered.
Precedents &/or comparisons:	<p>Boulders have seen a resurgence in children's playgrounds across the country, especially since the Playbuilder and Play Pathfinder projects from 2008 to 2010. They have been used successfully in numerous playgrounds across the country, without any documented trend of serious incidents.</p> <p>Hard edges are an inevitable part of the built environment, and are present in features such as the corner of the existing school building.</p> <p>It is reasonable to reduce the sharpness of sharp edges where found, but it is not considered to be reasonable to pad or soften every surface.</p> <p>The playground prior to the installation of the boulders had hard surfaces, most notably the macadam surface. The absence of interesting features such as the boulders led to children running around, with subsequent risk of head injury in the vent of collision or tripping. With the boulders (and other parts of the playground) the children are more engaged with the play space and the risk of collision and tripping is reduced.</p>
Decision:	The boulders generally present a low risk to users, the risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between

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	risk and benefit.
Actions taken:	The sharp edges of all boulders and rocks on site have been rounded off.
Options for managing the risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by the activity are all available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the boulders. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time. However, significant damage to boulders is unlikely to occur and it is only through significant damage that sharp edges are likely to accrue. • Monitor the situation – The activity is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. A daily visual inspection will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work undertaken when problems arise. Further Operational and Annual inspections will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. • Mitigate or manage the risk – the unit has already been installed and/or modified to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control, but it can bring risks with it, including children slipping from the sudden intervention of a supervisor. During icy spells it will

	<p>be necessary to grit/salt the play surfaces or otherwise render them out of bounds. This is currently done through dynamic risk benefit assessment, with appropriate guidance given to staff to ensure it is undertaken whenever necessary. The cost is minimal as the routine inspections are already being undertaken, and the cost of grit/salt is low.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The edges of all boulders and rocks on site have been rounded off to a radius of 3mm or more so that the energy of any possible impact is spread over a wider part of the body. Supervisors monitor the children’s behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users. Children discuss and visit the playground with a teacher at beginning of the school year. Playground behaviour is included in weekly assemblies. Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded. The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment. It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out. The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

7. Sand Play

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasure and fun • Children are able to mould their own environment. • They can model and test • Use of imagination • Unlimited ability for child-centred, child-led play, leading to the building of developmental concepts. • Muscle development and coordination through digging, delving, pouring, sifting, scooping and cleaning. • Mathematical concepts develop through division of sand in conjunction with scoops etc. • Social interaction through group play • Engaging with natural materials. • Learning and teaching opportunities will be enhanced • Mixed age and gender play. • Increased scope for imaginative play.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>Sand is generally clean and not supportive of pathogens, and is therefore inherently low risk. Children may get sand in their eyes, especially in windy conditions.</p> <p>The sand migrating onto macadam surface may cause slipping. This is especially of concern adjacent to the boulders edging the macadam surface, where the sand is most likely to accumulate.</p> <p>Children could become ill or injured by coming into contact with sand contaminated by mould, faeces or glass.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>There is a need for more play opportunities in the local community.</p>
<p>Precedents</p>	<p>Sand has seen a resurgence in children’s playgrounds</p>

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<p>&/or comparisons:</p>	<p>across the country, especially since the Playbuilder and Play Pathfinder projects from 2008 to 2010. It has seen wider use across continental Europe. It has been used successfully in numerous playgrounds across the country, without any documented trend of serious incidents.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The activity generally presents a low risk to users, the risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>Sand is swept, loosened and topped up as and when required.</p>
<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of sand moving away from the sand pits.. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time, when sand blows or is moved onto the macadam. Also a significant reduction in the sand depth will have a negative effect on the benefits. • Monitor the situation – The activity is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work to be undertaken when problems arise, moving sand to the correct place and topping up as levels deteriorate in time. Further inspections

	<p>according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has already been installed to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against windy conditions.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sand blowing is monitored in windy conditions and the children are moved from the area when the wind is particularly troublesome. • Children will be brought inside in particularly strong winds. • The sand is swept from the macadam surface as required to ensure it does not become slippery. • Daily dynamic risk assessment carried out by school staff. • The sand is uncovered therefore air can circulate freely, and sand is washed by rain, reducing the likelihood of contamination by mould. • Children are encouraged to report anything they see that concerns them. • If found, contamination is removed immediately followed by disinfecting if required. • Consideration will be given to covering the sand with netting should contamination by animal faeces become a recurring problem.

8. Tunnel Mound and Slide

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasure and fun • The enclosed space presents a sense of privacy and adventure • Sense of achievement through crawling through a tunnel from end to end • Climbing builds agility, strength and coordination. • Loose materials in the impact area provide for imaginative play. • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves • Muscle development and coordination through collection of loose materials into tunnel • Social interaction through group play • Slide is designed to take more than one child side by side • Engaging with natural materials and varied textures.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>The tunnel presents a small risk of intimidation and harassment.</p> <p>There is a risk of falling from height. Children may fall from the sides of the slide if the structure was used not as it was intended.</p> <p>Climbing is inherently safe as children tend to concentrate in order to maintain their own balance and maintain three points of contact but when standing at the top or when competing with other children they are more likely to be pushed off and fall on the rocks below.</p> <p>The maximum free height of fall is reasonably low, but due to the layout of the landscape it is not possible to control the risk by the addition of an IAS.</p>

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Local factors:	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. The top of the slide has a bespoke wooden structure to funnel the children safely to the slide entrance if busy or crowded. This reduces the risk of a child being pushed or falling accidentally. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control to ensure the slide is used appropriately.</p>
Precedents &/or comparisons:	<p>Tunnels and slides have been a feature of playgrounds for decades, without any trend in incidents emerging.</p> <p>Climbing structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children's play and feature in almost every children's playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
Decision:	<p>The activity generally presents a low risk to users, the risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
Actions taken:	<p>The sharp edges of all boulders, rocks and wooden structures on site have been rounded off. One boulder has been removed. The entrance to the tunnel has had a temporary padding added to the entrance. A tractor tyre will be put in permanently to reduce the risk of head injury if there was a collision with the entrance to the tunnel.</p>
Options for managing the risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by the activity are all available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the tunnel or slide, its walls, rocks or tyres. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time. • Monitor the situation – The activity is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. A daily visual inspection will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work undertaken when problems arise, such as removing splintered timbers, topping up the loose surfacing and repairing the artificial grass surface. Further Operational and Annual inspections will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. • Mitigate or manage the risk – the unit has already been installed and modified to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered low. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against overcrowding. • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An impact attenuating surface (IAS) has been installed at the base of the slide. One rock at the entrance to the tunnel has been. The rocks in this area have been rounded. • Dynamic risk assessment by supervisors and any

required action taken. For example, discussing play that has potential for calamity with children so they adjust their behaviour if necessary, particularly around tunnels.

- The condition of the gravel is monitored to ensure it remains topped up to acceptable levels and that no hard objects have been placed into the gravel.

9. Tyre Retaining Walls at Sandpit & Whindust Path

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasure and fun • Climbing builds agility, strength and coordination • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self-esteem • Awareness of a sense of height • Loose materials in the impact area provide for imaginative play • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves • Social interaction through group play • Engaging with natural materials
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height during busy periods as there is a path at the top of the tyre wall.</p> <p>Climbing is inherently safe as children tend to concentrate in order to maintain their own balance and maintain three points of contact but when standing at the top or when competing with other children they are more likely to be pushed off and fall into the sandpit.</p> <p>The maximum free height of fall is reasonably low, at the highest point the risk is controlled by the addition of an impact attenuating surface compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008.</p> <p>The tyres may, over time, deteriorate. This could lead to metal parts of the tyres protruding.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. Climbing is not the intended main use of tyre wall it is subsidiary use. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against any overcrowding.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Climbing structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p>

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	<p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children’s play and feature in almost every children’s playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The activity generally presents a low risk to users, the risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>The tyres are secured with bolts and filled with sand and soil.</p>
<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the tyres or thinning of the impact attenuating surface. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time. • Monitor the situation – The activity is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. There will be a routine visual inspection undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work undertaken when problems arise, such as protruding wires from the tyres, or topping up the loose surfacing. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections bear a cost. • Mitigate or manage the risk – the unit has already been installed to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered to be low.

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	<p>Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against any overcrowding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs would be considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
Ongoing management and monitoring:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An impact attenuating surface is already in place within the sandpit area. This is primarily to protect the head in the event of a fall, but it may reduce the severity of other injuries.• The condition of the sand is monitored to ensure it remains topped up to acceptable levels and not compacted.• The condition of the sand is monitored periodically out of school hours opening to ensure it remains suitably topped up and free of hard objects.

10. Amphitheatre

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role play. • Cognitive development through mimicry. • Climbing builds agility, strength and coordination. • Awareness of a sense of height. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self esteem • Loose materials in the impact area provide for imaginative play. • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Social interaction through group play. • Engaging with natural materials (stone, wood, gravel and sand)
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height. The maximum free height of fall is reasonably low, and the risk is controlled by the addition of an impact attenuating surface compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008.</p> <p>Children running along the boulders or tripping and colliding with the boulders, especially head first.</p> <p>Non-rounded edges and corners of boulders present a risk of serious injury, although the likelihood of hitting head first is low, but the severity of injury is high.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on the boulders or nearby, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p> <p>It will be ensured that any ice is removed from slabs and gritting/salting carried out.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. This will decrease the risk of a child</p>

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	<p>being pushed or falling accidentally. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against overcrowding or to prevent over boisterous games that have potential for calamity.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Such structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children’s play and feature in almost every children’s playground across Scotland, the United Kingdom and more widely.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The activity presents a low risk to users. The risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>All boulder edges have been rounded off to 3mm.</p>
<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and the need for maintenance is likely to be low, and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the boulders or thinning of the impact attenuating surface. • Monitor the situation –the area is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work to be undertaken when problems

	<p>arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has already been modified to comply with the current British Standard and the risk are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against misuse. • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs would be considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The boulders are clear and patent to users and away from running routes, so the speed of children is already reduced before they arrive. • The edges of the boulders have been rounded to 3mm or greater so that the energy of any possible impact is spread over a wider part of the body. • Supervisors monitor the children’s behaviour and consider intervention if boisterous activity is combined with high number of users. • Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded. • The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment. • It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out. • The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

11. Rock Wall and Climbing Ropes

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear demarcation of areas of the playground. • Ability to climb from one boulder to another. • Varied textural finish to build agility and coordination. • Awareness of a sense of height above the surrounding ground. • Climbing and balancing adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Rock wall mimics local area so builds children’s ability and confidence to access their wider environment safely by learning and experimenting in a more controlled environment. • Engaging with natural materials (stone/rocks) • Development of self-confidence and well-being. • Mixing between different age ranges and genders. • Good potential for some unpredictability and therefore challenge. • Pleasure and fun.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>Children may collide with boulders by falling from one to another or to surface below, especially head first.</p> <p>Sharp edges are commonplace in the built environment, in places such as the corner of the school building where children can run past and fall into the wall, but the boulders are placed such that children are more likely to encounter them.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on the boulders or nearby, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p> <p>There is a risk of falling from height. The British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 allows for falls from this height onto IAS.</p>

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<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. There is a demarcation of the area at the top of the rock wall so separate it from the path. Rock wall is such that children will have made a very conscious decision to climb. It is an area of specific supervision during school play times.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Boulders have seen a resurgence in children’s playgrounds across the country, especially since the Playbuilder and Play Pathfinder projects from 2008 to 2010. They have been used successfully in numerous playgrounds across the country, without any documented trend of serious incidents.</p> <p>Hard edges are an inevitable part of the built environment, and are present in features such as the corner of the existing school building.</p> <p>It is reasonable to reduce the sharpness of sharp edges where found, but it is not considered to be reasonable to pad or soften every surface.</p> <p>The playground prior to the installation of the boulders had hard surfaces, most notably the macadam surface. The absence of interesting features such as the boulders led to children running around, with subsequent risk of head injury in the vent of collision or tripping. With the boulders (and other parts of the playground) the children are more engaged with the play space and the risk of collision and tripping is reduced.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The boulders generally present a low risk to users, the risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>The sharp edges of all boulders and rocks on site have been rounded off. Two ropes have been installed to</p>

	support the climbing activity.
<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by the activity are all available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the boulders. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time. However, significant damage to boulders is unlikely to occur and it is only through significant damage that sharp edges are likely to accrue. • Monitor the situation – The activity is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. A daily visual inspection will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work undertaken when problems arise. Further Operational and Annual inspections will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. • Mitigate or manage the risk – Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control, but it can bring risks with it, including children slipping from the sudden intervention of a supervisor. During icy spells it will be necessary to grit/salt the play surfaces or otherwise render them out of bounds. This is currently done through dynamic risk benefit assessment, which has been shared with supervisors to ensure it is undertaken whenever

	<p>necessary. The cost is minimal as the routine inspections are already being undertaken, and the cost of grit/salt is low.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The edges of all boulders and rocks on site have been rounded off to a radius of 3mm or more so that the energy of any possible impact is spread over a wider part of the body. Supervisors monitor the children’s behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users. Children discuss and visit the playground with a teacher at beginning of the school year. Playground behaviour is included in assemblies. Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded. The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment. It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out. The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

12. Wildlife Garden

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasure and fun • Climbing onto logs builds agility, strength and coordination. • Traversing the balance structures (planks) builds coordination and agility. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self-esteem. • Experience and learning opportunities through flora and fauna to be found in the wildlife garden. • Stepping/jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Imaginative play opportunities. • Space that lends itself to quieter and more peaceful play or space for children to relax and talk. • Social interaction through group play. • Engaging with natural materials (timber and grass).
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height. The maximum free height of fall is reasonably low, and the risk is controlled by the provision of suitably well maintained grass (compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008).</p> <p>The risk of falling may increase if there is a buildup of algae (or ice) and the logs or decking is slippy.</p> <p>Risk of drowning within the area with the wildlife pond.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is away from the school’s immediate curtilage, which may lead to misuse or unseen damage but is included in the weekly and daily checks. School activities are undertaken with supervision.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Low balance structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other</p>

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	<p>climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children’s play and feature in almost every children’s playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The activity presents a low risk to users, the risk have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>Relaxed areas of grass with excessive amounts of nettles have weed control. The area is only open to pupils when supervision within the area is available.</p> <p>Area where pond is located has fence and padlocked gate so it is only accessible by supervised groups during school hours.</p>
<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the logs or excessive weeds developing. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’ but this is likely to lead to problems in time. • Monitor the situation – The activity presents a low risk to users and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. A daily visual inspection will be undertaken by school staff and remedial

	<p>maintenance work undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual inspections. These will be undertaken. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has been to present a low risk to users. No further mitigation is identified as being necessary. • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs would be moderate.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The logs and decking are reasonably low, such that falls from excessive height are not likely. • The general surface is grass, which is suitable for falls from up to 1.5 metres. • Ensure that the fence to pond area is in good repair with no protrusions. • Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded. • Logs and wooden surfaces will be monitored to ensure they are kept free of algae. • The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment. • It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out. • The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods.

13. Loose Parts

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasure and fun. • Children are able to mould their own environment. • They can model and test. • Use of imagination. • Unlimited ability for child-centred, child-led play, leading to the building of developmental concepts. • Muscle development and coordination through digging, delving, pouring, sifting, scooping and cleaning. • Social interaction through group play and teamwork. • Engaging with natural materials. • Enhances learning and teaching.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>Children may throw parts at each other or be unsuspecting targets of deliberate or accidental dropping or throwing.</p> <p>Loose parts may allow children to reach unintended places, leading to unintended fall heights.</p> <p>Falling from excessive height onto hard objects and surfaces.</p> <p>Tripping and slipping over loose parts and falling onto hard parts</p> <p>Damaged loose parts may present hazards to children.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. Due to size of the playground loose parts may spread un-noticed which may lead to children not being aware of loose parts on and around play structures. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against this, including a shed to</p>

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	lock away loose parts if necessary.
Precedents &/or comparisons:	Loose parts are used extensively in supervised play settings and in educational settings. Reasonable control measures are generally implemented to ensure the risks are controlled satisfactorily.
Decision:	The activity presents a tolerable risk to users if supervised and managed properly. Proper routine inspection and maintenance will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.
Actions taken:	All loose play items are put back in storage before any extended holiday and re-location of any stray parts form part of the daily checks.
Options for managing the risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by this activity may not be available to all users on the site if the loose parts are kept out of reach. Therefore, children will not be benefitting from them. Allowing managed use of loose parts (suitable parts and suitable modes of use) will open up the benefits to all users in a controlled setting. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. An uncontrolled use of loose parts may lead to falls from excessive height or unexpected tripping from height. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’ but it is likely to lead to accidents. • Monitor the situation – Ensure loose parts used are suitable and in good condition. This can be done through routine inspections. Lock the loose parts away when site is not being used under supervision. • Mitigate or manage the risk – Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against misuse and misplacement. Ensure the loose parts used are suitable and in good condition. This can be done through routine inspections. Lock the loose parts away when the site is not being used under supervision.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs would be negligible.
Ongoing management and monitoring:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playground Safety brief for all staff has been prepared and distributed.• Playground staff have received dynamic risk assessment and loose parts training.• Supervisors are aware of the risks and provide suitable guidance to children.• Storage of loose parts has been provided and loose parts are removed during extended holiday periods, sand toys should be removed daily.

14. Tarmacadam and other non-landscaped areas

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muscle development through running, jumping skipping • Social interaction through group play. • Area for outdoor learning and teaching • Space available for loose play materials which provide for imaginative play • Provides space for energetic play experiences. • Offers space for movement and physical activity • Offers space for games involving speed, agility and coordination
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>Children colliding can sustain head or other injuries</p> <p>Head bumps from children running fast and colliding with one another</p> <p>Falling onto hard surface which may lead to cuts, grazes and bumps.</p> <p>Tripping and slipping over loose parts.</p> <p>Children may throw parts at each other.</p> <p>Slipping on surface in icy/snowy weather.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore which may reduce the number of collisions and trips. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against excessively fast running.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Flat tarmacadam surfaces are used in playgrounds across City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The activity presents an acceptable level of risk to users if supervised and managed properly.</p>

<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>Tarmacadam area has been reduced by the introduction of play landscape to encourage different types of play which has reduced running/racing games and collisions.</p> <p>Games such as ‘British Bulldogs’ are discouraged. Improvement and development of surrounding areas within the playground have greatly reduced the traffic on the tarmacadam. Furthermore, the newly developed areas are accessible during most weather conditions reducing the need to restrict children to the tarmacadam.</p> <p>Introduction of loose play encourages different style of active play.</p> <p>Staggered breaks and lunch breaks</p> <p>Continue to grit and salt during icy/snowy weather.</p>
<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. An uncontrolled use of the area may lead to increased collisions and tripping. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’ but it is likely to lead to accidents. • Monitor the situation – Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work undertaken when problems arise. • Mitigate or manage the risk – Supervision to manage speed of running and unsuitable games involving excessive running speeds. Ensure the loose parts used are suitable and in good condition. This can be done through routine inspections. Lock

	<p>the loose parts away when the site is not being used under supervision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity and this is not currently an option. The costs of replacing the tarmacadam surface would be considerable.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervisors monitor the children’s behaviour Games such as ‘British Bulldogs’ are discouraged. Introduction of loose play encourages different style of active play. Staggered breaks and lunch breaks Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded. The need to grit/salt surfaces is identified before children are allowed to play and a record is kept of this assessment. It is ensured that any ice is removed from on and around the affected areas. Gritting/salting is carried out. The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, including out of school hours periods. The playground will be closed on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

15. Trim Trail and Balance Beams

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasure and fun. • Climbing builds agility, strength and coordination. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self-esteem. • Awareness of a sense of height. • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Balancing improves strength and co-ordination. • Social interaction through group play
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from the trim trail and balance beams, especially during busy periods. The numbers of children may lead to pushing, either accidental or deliberate, leading to falls to the surface below.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on wooden elements of the trim trail or balance beams, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p> <p>The maximum free height of fall is reasonably low, and the risk is controlled by the addition of an impact attenuating surface compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176- 1:2008.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore which reduces the risk of a child being pushed or falling accidentally. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against any potential overcrowding.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Climbing structures and towers have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City</p>

	<p>of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children’s play and feature in almost every children’s playground across Scotland, and the UK and more widely.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The activity presents a low risk to users, the risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>This particular play piece is over 10 years old and some repairs to extend the lifespan have been recently undertaken by Caledonia Play.</p>
<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the structure or thinning of the impact attenuating surface. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’ but this is likely to lead to problems in time. • Monitor the situation – The activity is installed according to the requirements of the British Standard EN 1176-1:2008 and is in reasonable condition. The commissioned replacement of parts of the equipment mean it will return to good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work to be undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to

	<p>EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has already been installed and modified to comply with the current British Standard and the risks are considered to be low. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control against overcrowding. No further mitigation is identified as being necessary.• Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs would be considerable.
Ongoing management and monitoring:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The grass surface installed all around the structure complying with EN 1176.• Supervisors monitor the children’s behaviour and consider intervention if boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users.• Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded.

16. Willow Structures

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasure and fun • The underside provides seclusion and meeting space (dens) for social interaction. • Imaginary Play • Climbing through builds agility, strength and coordination. • Social interaction through group play. • Mixed age play. • Engaging with natural materials (willow and grass). • Unlimited ability for child-centred, child-led play, leading to the building of developmental concepts. • Social interaction through group play and teamwork. • Engaging with natural materials. • Enhances learning and teaching.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>There is a risk of injury from stray or broken branches, especially when they occur at eye height.</p> <p>Branches from the willow could be broken off and used as weapons in over boisterous play.</p> <p>The risk of injury may increase if the willow is not regularly maintained.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>There is willow in a number of areas throughout the playground, when in full leaf the tunnels are quiet enclosed. School activities are undertaken with supervision.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Willow has been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more wisely nationally and internationally.</p>

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Decision:	The activity presents a low risk to users, the risk have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.
Actions taken:	Willow checked on weekly and daily with any remedial works undertaken when identified. Large annual harvest and weaving takes place over the winter months.
Options for managing the risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the willow. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’ but this is likely to lead to problems in time. • Monitor the situation – The activity presents a low risk to users and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. A daily visual inspection will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual inspections. These will be undertaken. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. • Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has been to present a low risk to users. No further mitigation is identified as being necessary.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs would be moderate.
Ongoing management and monitoring:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to maintain willow structures regularly.• The general surface is grass, which is suitable for falls from up to 1.5 meters.• Ensure that the willow is in good repair.• Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded.

17. Multiplay Ship

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climbing up the ladder to the deck builds agility, strength and coordination. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self-esteem. • Awareness of a sense of height. • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Engaging with natural materials (timber and gravel) • Pleasure and fun • Learning through experience: accidents from which one might learn. • Potential for incorporation into imaginative games. • Mixed play between the age groups and gender. • Increased opportunity to gain transferable life skills around keeping themselves and others safe. • Improve the ability of children to enjoy a quality learning and teaching experience inside of school as a direct result of fulfilling and purposeful play at break times. • The underside provides seclusion and meeting space (dens) for social interaction. • Unlimited ability for child-centred, child-led play, leading to the building of developmental concepts. • Social interaction through group play and teamwork.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>)::</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height during busy periods. The children may play a game of attempting to push each other off, which may lead to an unprepared child being pushed off, deliberately or accidentally. Injuries sustained may involve broken bones and complex fractures. Head injuries could be sustained if falling upon the timber edging.</p> <p>Risk of repetitive strain to joints and limbs if repeated</p>

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	<p>and consistent leaping from the wall to the impact attenuating surface (IAS) below. The IAS is compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008.</p> <p>In freezing conditions there may be ice on the structure or nearby, increasing the likelihood of slipping.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. However, should children crowd on the deck of the boat this will increase the risk of a child being pushed or falling accidentally. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control. Morning breaks and lunch breaks are staggered to reduce the numbers of children in the playground at any one time. Morning supervision has been introduced from 8.30 until 8.50.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Climbing structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children's play and feature in almost every children's playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The multi-play boat presents a low risk to users. The risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>The barrier height on the boat has been increased to reduce the risk of accidental falls from the deck. The IAS was replaced with the 'Safe Gravel™' in June 2016. A barrier has been placed where there is potential for fall from the boat onto rocks.</p>

<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. To ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the boat or thinning of the impact attenuating surface. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’, but this is likely to lead to problems in time. • Monitor the situation – The unit in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work will be undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. • Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has already been installed and modified supervision is in place to prevent a measure of control against overcrowding. Staggered break times also act as a control measure. • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An impact attenuating surface (IAS) has been installed around the multi-play ship which complies with the dimensional requirements of EN 1176. The primary purpose of IAS is to protect the head in the event of a fall – it may also reduce the severity of other injuries. • The condition of the gravel is monitored to ensure

the gravel remains topped up to acceptable levels and that no hard objects have been placed into the gravel.

- Supervisors monitor the children's behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users.
- Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded.
- The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, the IAS has frozen - including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

18. Terraced Sliding Area

Area removed until development works balance the risk benefit assessment to a level which complies with EN1176. Advice sought from RoSPA to help improve the play qualities of the area.

19. Climber Ramp and Rope

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climbing up the ramp builds agility, strength and coordination. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing, building self-esteem. • Awareness of a sense of height. • Jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Engaging with natural materials (timber, rocks and gravel) • Pleasure and fun • Learning through experience: accidents from which one might learn. • Potential for incorporation into imaginative games. • Mixed play between the age groups and gender. • Increased opportunity to gain transferable life skills around keeping themselves and others safe. • Improve the ability of children to enjoy a quality learning and teaching experience inside of school as a direct result of fulfilling and purposeful play at break times. • Social interaction through group play and teamwork.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>)::</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height during busy periods. Overzealous play may lead to an unprepared child being pushed off, deliberately or accidentally. Injuries sustained may involve broken bones and complex fractures. Head injuries could be sustained if falling upon the timber edging.</p> <p>Risk of repetitive strain to joints and limbs if repeated and consistent leaping from the wall to the impact attenuating surface (IAS) below. The IAS is compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008.</p>

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	In freezing conditions there may be ice on the structure or nearby, increasing the likelihood of slipping.
Local factors:	The site is extensive in area for the number of children using it, there is ample space and other interesting areas to explore. Supervision is in place to provide a measure of control. Morning breaks and lunch breaks are staggered to reduce the numbers of children in the playground at any one time. Morning supervision has been introduced from 8.30 until 8.50.
Precedents &/or comparisons:	<p>Climbing structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more widely nationally and internationally.</p> <p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children's play and feature in almost every children's playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
Decision:	The climber ramp presents a low risk to users. The risks have been managed through correct design and that monitoring, through routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.
Actions taken:	The climber ramp and rope is up only during school hours. The area has an IAS at its foot. A barrier has been placed where there is potential for fall from the boat onto rocks.
Options for managing the risk:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risks) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. • Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. To 'do nothing' implies that no remedial

	<p>action is taken in the event of damage to the boat or thinning of the impact attenuating surface. There is no monetary cost to 'do nothing', but this is likely to lead to problems in time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the situation – The unit in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. Daily visual inspections will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work will be undertaken when problems arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual. These will be undertaken. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. • Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has already been installed and modified supervision is in place to prevent a measure of control against overcrowding. Staggered break times also act as a control measure. • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs are considerable as much landscaping work would be needed.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An impact attenuating surface (IAS) has been installed at the foot of the climber ramp which complies with the dimensional requirements of EN 1176. The primary purpose of IAS is to protect the head in the event of a fall – it may also reduce the severity of other injuries. • The condition of the gravel is monitored to ensure the gravel remains topped up to acceptable levels and that no hard objects have been placed into the gravel. • Supervisors monitor the children's behaviour and consider intervention when boisterous activity is combined with high numbers of users. • Procedural recording of daily inspections and

dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded.

- The playground is made out of bounds when it is not possible to provide effective gritting/salting, the IAS has frozen - including out of school hours periods. The gates will be locked on evenings/weekends if necessary due to weather conditions.

20. General Logs

<p>Benefits:</p>	<p>The generic benefits of play are show in Table 1. Benefits specific to this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasure and fun • Climbing onto logs builds agility, strength and coordination. • Traversing the balance structures (planks) builds coordination and agility. • Children gain a sense of achievement upon climbing and balancing, building self-esteem. • Stepping/jumping adds to children’s ability to assess risk for themselves. • Imaginative play opportunities. • Social interaction through group play. • Engaging with natural materials.
<p>Risks (<i>taking into account any technical information identified in the supplementary form below</i>):</p>	<p>There is a risk of falling from height. The maximum free height of fall is low, and the risk is controlled by the provision of suitably well maintained grass and other IAS (compliant with the requirements of British Standard EN 1176-1:2008).</p> <p>The risk of falling may increase if there is a buildup of algae (or ice) and the logs or decking is slippery.</p> <p>Loose logs may fall on children’s feet or roll hitting a child.</p>
<p>Local factors:</p>	<p>The logs are not all routinely put away, which may lead to misuse. However the various logs within the play landscape are included in the weekly and daily checks. School activities are undertaken with supervision.</p>
<p>Precedents &/or comparisons:</p>	<p>Low balance structures have been used in playgrounds for decades and children have learnt to climb the natural and built environment for generations. Other climbing structures are available across the City of Edinburgh and more wisely nationally and internationally.</p>

Risk-Benefit Assessment Form

	<p>Falls from height and the exposure to the risk of falls from height are an inherent part of children’s play and feature in almost every children’s playground across Scotland, the UK and more widely.</p>
<p>Decision:</p>	<p>The activity presents a low risk to users, the risk have been managed through monitoring, routine inspection and maintenance, will keep the correct balance between risk and benefit.</p>
<p>Actions taken:</p>	<p>Relaxed areas of grass with excessive amounts of nettles have weed control. The loose play area is supervised.</p> <p>Daily checks highlight if any logs are in a location which presents a problem or unsatisfactory risk, for example a log in a fall zone or within the IAS would be removed to an area where the logs improve and enhance play opportunities.</p>
<p>Options for managing the risk:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase the opportunities for engagement (with good risk) – the good risks presented by this activity are available to all users on the site and therefore it is not considered necessary or desirable to increase engagement. ● Do nothing – This is not likely to be a realistic option. On the one hand, the risks presented are considered to be low and therefore no action is needed to change them, but on the other hand ‘do nothing’ implies that no remedial action is taken in the event of damage to the logs or excessive weeds developing. There is no monetary cost to ‘do nothing’ but this is likely to lead to problems in time. ● Monitor the situation – The activity presents a low risk to users and is in good condition. Monitoring will ensure it remains in good condition and fit for purpose. A daily visual inspection will be undertaken by school staff and remedial maintenance work undertaken when problems

	<p>arise. Further inspections according to EN 1176-7:2008 include Operational and Annual inspections. These will be undertaken. As this is a non-standard item, this should be provided by a suitably experienced person and not inspected by someone whose main or only knowledge is of EN standards. The Operational and Annual inspections will bear a cost.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigate or manage the risk - the unit has been to present a low risk to users. No further mitigation is identified as being necessary. • Remove the risk – the only way to remove the risk is to remove the activity, which will remove the benefits. The costs would be moderate.
<p>Ongoing management and monitoring:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The logs are reasonably low, such that falls from excessive height are not likely. • The general surface is grass, which is suitable for falls from up to 1.5 metres. • Procedural recording of daily inspections and dynamic risk assessment has been put in place with actions recorded. • Logs and wooden surfaces will be monitored to ensure they are kept free of algae.

Knowledge and/or specialist expertise needed (if any) for this risk-benefit assessment

Knowledge or specialism	Person providing the knowledge/ carrying out the assessment	Any checks carried out and actions proposed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground safety and relevant standards and guidelines. • Play Scotland website and worked examples of RB. • Learning through Landscapes Risk Benefit Analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originally supported by CEC Senior Play Development Officer. • RA / RB training provided by CEC and delivered by David Yearly of RoSPA. 	<p>Annual inspection booked for Feb 17. Quarterly inspections booked for May, August and November 17.</p>