



SCHOOL
PLAYGROUND
SPECIALISTS



Your Complete Guide to
Equipment Care
& Maintenance

2024

Intro

At The **School Playground Specialists**, we provide exceptional care for your playground through our comprehensive range of services. We understand the importance of creating a safe, fun, and durable play environment that can endure the rigours of daily use and the relentless march of time.

Our commitment to excellence ensures that from the minor routine repair to a full-scale refurbishment, your playground is meticulously maintained and safeguarded by our expert team.

Quick, reliable, and always professional, we're more than just a service provider—we're your play partners.

Just a phone call away, we are poised to respond swiftly to any maintenance need you might encounter. Whether it's regular upkeep, an urgent repair, or a sudden emergency, trust in us to restore peace of mind with our experience and dedicated support.

Choosing The School Playground Specialists for a partnership that places your playground's integrity and longevity at the forefront. Experience the peace of mind from knowing your play area is in expert hands.

What We Offer



24/7 Emergency Call-Outs

Because unexpected situations don't wait, and neither do we.



Comprehensive Inspections with Detailed Reports

To keep your playground equipment safe and up to all safety standards



Playground Equipment Services

Maintenance, repairs, and installations tailored to your needs.



Playground Alterations & Extensions

Evolving your space to grow with your significantly changing needs.



Deep Cleaning

Ensuring a hygienic environment for children to play and thrive & keeping the aesthetic fresh year after year.

*Throughout this brochure, we will underline the **importance of Inspection and maintenance**. Hints, tips, do's and don'ts, and the services we can offer to help keep your play area looking good and meet standards for years.*

Inspection and Maintenance Schedule

Ensuring the safety and longevity of your playground is paramount to **The School Playground Specialists**. Our rigorous inspection and maintenance schedule is designed by the exacting standards of **BS EN 1176-7**. These standards offer comprehensive guidance on the installation, inspection, maintenance, and operation of playground equipment, guaranteeing all users a safe and enjoyable environment.

To sustain the highest level of play area integrity, the frequency and depth of inspections may vary based on factors such as the equipment's location, usage, and the probability of vandalism or misuse. Under normal conditions, The School Playground Specialists suggest the following minimal frequencies:

Inspection Schedule – Levels of inspection and frequency

During inspections, any unsafe equipment that cannot be immediately or adequately repaired or replaced must be taken out of service to prevent further use. Maintaining a regular inspection routine is crucial and should be diligently recorded to track the playground's condition.

Important Note

Maintaining and providing copies of your inspection and maintenance reports is crucial for warranty claims.

Recommended Inspection Routine Visual Inspections

These short, regular checks are pivotal for identifying immediate hazards potentially arising from vandalism, weather, or wear and tear.

Frequency

Weekly, with consideration for usage levels. For new play areas, due to typically higher Initial use, we suggest daily visual inspection for the first few weeks following installation.



Daily Visual Inspection Checklist

As a part of our stewardship for your play area's welfare, we advise the following daily minimum checks:

- Ensure all timber and steel structures are secure to the ground.
- Verify that all hardware and fixings are intact and tight.
- Inspect for any sharp, splintered, or jagged edges on equipment.
- Check chains, ropes, swing seats, tyres, and connections for wear or damage.
- Assess all coated surfaces for signs of damage, rust, or deterioration.
- Confirm that the play area is clean and free from debris and potential hazards.
- Inspect surfacing for any damage or signs of wear.

By adhering to The School Playground Specialists' maintenance schedule, you can rest assured that your playground will remain a beacon of safety, fun, and exploration for the community it serves.

Operational Inspections

Regular operational inspections ensure that the playground not only appears safe but functions safely as well. These comprehensive evaluations are designed to be performed quarterly to maintain the structural integrity and safety of each component in your playground.

To facilitate these inspections, The School Playground Specialists provide you with a complimentary Operational Checklist and Inspection Report. Keeping this report in your records is crucial, as it documents the ongoing commitment to the maintenance and safety of your play area.

Operational Checklist Highlights

General Checks

1. Ensure the area around the equipment is clear of rubbish, debris, and obstructions.
2. Inspect all timber elements for damage, rot, or decay signs.
3. Examine ropes, chains, tyres, and connections for wear or corrosion.
4. Check all steel components for excessive rust or deterioration.
5. Confirm that all playground equipment is in place and tightly secured.
6. Assess surface finishes for damages or signs of rusting and wear.
7. Inspect bushes, shackles, and pins for wear—replace any bushes with over 50% wear.
8. Ensure welds exhibit no signs of fatigue and remain corrosion-free.
9. Verify all foundations are secure without cracks or signs of movement.
10. Test all parts for security; ensure no excessive movements between connections.



Ropes and Chains

1. Check all components for protrusions or sharp edges.
2. Ensure all fixings are tightly in place, leaving no opportunity for injury.
3. Inspect all ropes and chains for fraying, vandalism, or exposed wires.
4. Confirm that all eyebolts, shackles, and links are undamaged and show no signs of wear.

Loose Fill Surfacing (e.g., Bark, Sand, Wood Chips)

1. Check that surfacing materials are evenly distributed over the impact area.
2. Audit the area for unwanted debris, such as animal droppings.



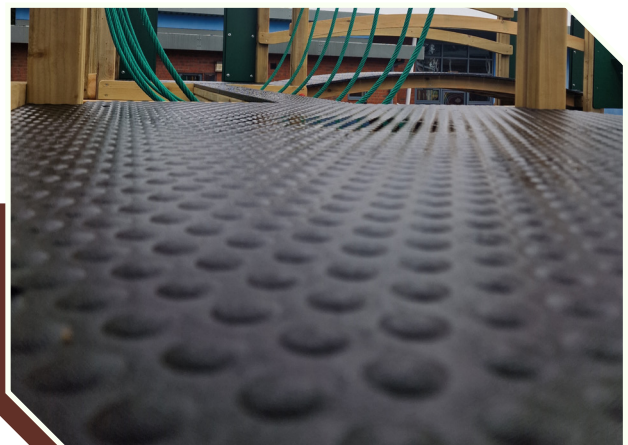
Hardstanding Surfacing (e.g., Tarmac, Wetpour and Rubber Mulch)

1. Inspect the surface for damages, ensuring it's not compromised.
2. Verify that edges are tight, well-sealed, and no gaps are emerging.
3. Routinely check for signs of shrinkage, crumbling, or movement within the safety surfacing.



Rubber Tiles

1. Check that all surfacing tiles are firmly in place and undamaged.
2. Examine tile edges and corners to ensure they are secure.



Annual Maintenance Inspection & Packages

In ensuring the sustained safety and integrity of playground equipment, it is imperative to conduct detailed inspections at intervals not exceeding 12 months—although semi-annual inspections are recommended for optimal upkeep. These examinations must be performed by a qualified individual who can thoroughly assess the condition and safety of your playground equipment. The resulting reports should then be securely stored for future reference or in the event of any claims.

The School Playground Specialists is your dedicated partner in this essential process. We are equipped to undertake these inspections with precision and care. Upon completion, you will be provided with:

- A comprehensive report
- Detailed Risk Assessments
- A curated list of items Requiring Attention
- A Quotation for repairs outside the scope of existing guarantees or warranties

Our packages are meticulously crafted to support the management and maintenance of your play area over the short, medium, and long term. With various options to suit diverse needs, we stand ready to consult and guide as necessary.

Our RPII (Register of Play Inspectors International) qualified inspectors extend beyond merely reporting on the condition of your equipment. They will actively assist in diagnosing and remedying any emergent issues.

Available Inspection Packages:

Option 01: Post-Installation Inspection

P.O.A

- ✓ One comprehensive post-installation inspection
- ✓ Inclusive of a complete detailed report

Option 02: Post-Installation Inspection

P.O.A

- ✓ One annual inspection visit
- ✓ Complete with a yearly inspection report

Option 03: Post-Installation Inspection

P.O.A

- ✓ One annual inspection to cover all bases
- ✓ Three operational inspections throughout the year for consistent oversight
- ✓ Three personalised one-to-one training and consultation sessions, empowering your team to maintain and manage your play area effectively


Guarantees


Product / Material	Comprehensive Guarantee	Material/Manufacturer Guarantee
Installation Services	2 Years	2 Years
Stone Sub-bases for Surfaces	2 Years	2 Years
Main Timber Uprights – Round & Square Cut Timber	2 Years	20 Years – against rot and infestation. Doesn't cover strimmer damage. Excludes splitting or cracking below 10mm width caused by natural shrinkage
Timber Cladding / Roofs	2 Years	10 Years – against rot and infestation
Moving Parts / Bearings	2 Years	2 Years
HDPE – Coloured Plastic – 'Playtec'	2 Years	10 Years – against structural failure (not colour fading)
HDPE – Coloured Plastic – 'Playtec PCR'	2 Years	10 Years – against structural failure (not colour fading)
Metal Outdoor Gym Equipment	2 Years	Moving Parts: 2 Years – Paint: 5 Years – Metal Structural Parts: 25 Years
Platforms / Floors / Footholds – 'Hex Board'	2 Years	5 Years – against structural failure
Platforms / Floors / Footholds – 'EkoGrip'	2 Years	10 Years – against structural failure
Ropes & Nets	2 Years	5 Years – against structural failure
Fixtures and Fittings	2 Years	10 Years – against structural failure
Chains, Coupling Links & Shackles	2 Years	5 Years – against structural failure
Thermoplastic Markings	2 Years	5 Years – does not cover vehicle damage or fading
EPDM Wetpour	2 Years	5 Years – guaranteed to meet the safety standards of BSEN1177. Does not cover shrinkage at edge profile whether tarmac, concrete, timber or existing safety surfaces. Colour fading, transfer or discolouration is not guaranteed. Wetpour repairs & overlays can also, not be guaranteed.
EPDM Rubber Mulch	2 Years	5 Years – guaranteed to meet the safety standards of BSEN1177. Does not cover shrinkage at edge profile whether grass, tarmac, concrete or timber. Guarantee only applies when laid onto a stone sub-base (minimum 50mm depth).
Recycled Rubber Mulch	2 Years	5 Years – guaranteed to meet the safety standards of BSEN1177. Does not cover shrinkage at edge profile whether grass, tarmac, concrete, timber or existing safety surfaces. Colour fading, transfer or discolouration not guaranteed. Guarantee only applies when laid onto a stone sub-base (minimum 50mm depth)
Artificial Grass & Playsafe	2 Years	10 Years – guaranteed to meet the safety standards of BSEN1177. Does not cover shrinkage at edge profile whether tarmac, concrete or timber. Colour fading, transfer or discolouration not guaranteed
Rubber Grass Mats	2 Years	2 Years – doesn't cover damage caused by mowing
Freestanding Timber Equipment	2 Years	2 Years – against structural failure
Loose-fill Surfaces i.e. bark, sand, gravel	N/A	N/A – these are landscaping products whose performance cannot be guaranteed
Metal Sports Fencing / Goals	2 Years	10 Years – against structural failure
Sails Shades, Polycarbonate Roofs, Timber Roofs	2 Years	5 Years – against structural failure. Doesn't cover damage by wind or snow




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