

GUIDANCE FOR PLAYGROUNDS

Overview

To ensure the safety of children, families and communities, individuals should take precautions when visiting playgrounds. Using playgrounds does have some risks. Children may find it difficult to avoid touching their eyes, nose, or mouth. This can lead to the spread of the virus to playground equipment, other children, and other families. Check with your municipality to determine whether or not playgrounds are available for use. Playground users must comply with [gathering restrictions](#) and maintain [physical distancing](#) of 2 metres between individuals not from the same household.

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

Individual Actions & Precautions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Those who are sick or have symptoms related to COVID-19 must not use playgrounds.• Encourage children to avoid sharing toys or sports equipment and limit contact with individuals outside of their household or cohort family.• Clean and disinfect toys and sports equipment prior to and after use.• Caution should be taken around playground equipment.• Practise proper hand hygiene.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Wash your hands frequently.○ Refrain from touching your face with unclean hands.○ Carry and use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol content immediately before and after using playground equipment.• Consider limiting children and other members of your household to only visiting playgrounds that are close to your home. This will help limit the number of people your family may come into contact with.• Maintain physical distancing and limit congregating with other people when entering and leaving the playground and supervising children playing (e.g. paths, benches, picnic areas).• Individuals should maintain physical distancing when returning to vehicles or homes.
Actions & Precautions for Municipalities and School Divisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drinking water fountains should be shut off.• Ensure garbage bins with removable linings are available. Consider checking these frequently.• Signage should be posted to remind users of gathering restrictions and physical distancing requirements.• Consider limiting access to playgrounds to those who live in the immediate neighbourhood.• Consider limiting capacity at playgrounds to allow for 2-metre distancing. Post signs to remind users of capacity restrictions.