

The Lee Parish Council

Lee Common children's playground

Re-opening July 2020



On 26th June 2020, the Government issued revised guidelines for managing playgrounds during Covid-19 and gave the owners of playgrounds permission, at their discretion, to re-open playgrounds from 4th July. Owners were asked to carry out an appropriate risk assessment before making a decision.

The Lee Parish Council has inspected the playground in Lee Common and reviewed the risks involved in re-opening at this stage. In the case of the Lee Common playground, it is not possible to introduce some of the more stringent options described in the guidelines (e.g. implementing an on-line booking system, limiting the maximum number of people in the area, setting a time limit, operating a one-way system or introducing a regular cleaning regime.) Nonetheless, given the nature of the playground and its level of use, the review by the Parish Council has concluded that it is reasonable that the playground should be re-opened on the following basis and understanding.

Public notices will be placed at the playground itself and at all entrances, and postings will be made to the village on-line forum and the Parish Council website, to the effect that:

- **The Lee Parish Council will not be cleaning or sanitising the playground equipment.**
- **The playground is not a supervised play area.**
- **Those visiting the playground use the equipment on this understanding.**
- **Allowing children to use playground equipment is, in this respect, done at their risk.**

The following Government guidance to parents and carers will also be emphasised:

- **Wash your and your children's hands before and after visiting. Take hand sanitiser with you and consider taking a bottle of water if your children's hands get covered in mud.**
- **Ensure your children are using hand sanitiser frequently.**
- **Follow the current social distance guidelines when visiting and encourage your children to do the same.**
- **If the playground is busy, consider coming back at a later time. Talk to your children about this possibility before visiting.**
- **Follow and adhere to all current government advice in addition to the above guidance.**

The Parish Council will review the situation after two weeks and regularly thereafter.