



Inspiring confidence in playground safety

Welcome to Play services – specialists in the delivery of indoor and outdoor playground inspections and playground inspection training.

We are here to help you comply with the best practice guidelines set out in the European Standards for Playgrounds (EN1176) and Surfacing (EN1177) and to provide you with the information required to keep your playground investment well maintained and safe for use.

We Service the UK & Ireland, helping to ensure the safety of playground equipment, multi use games areas, skate parks and outdoor gyms for Local Councils, Schools, Nurseries, Community Groups and privately owned businesses such as Indoor Play Areas, Caravan Parks, Hotels and Shopping Complexes. Each of these recreational facilities have their own specific standards.



THE COMPANY

Mel Campbell, Director of Play Services, has over 16 years experience in both the public and private playground sectors. Play Services provide **post-installation, operational and annual playground inspection services** and **fully accredited training** in routine and operational playground inspections. We deliver our services to a broad range of customers across the UK and Ireland – from large City to County Councils who outsource all of their outdoor annual inspections, to single site indoor soft play centres, community centres and holiday parks. We also provide design risk assessments and post-installation inspections for many playground installers throughout the UK & Ireland. Expansion in the UK has resulted in our new office – Play Services Scotland open in June 2020.

In addition to this, we work with manufacturers and local authorities as well as conducting expert witness reports for solicitors/ councils and insurance companies.

Play Services are completely independent of any playground equipment manufacturer or supplier and our staff have the highest possible industry qualifications, as provided by the **Register of Play Inspectors International (RPII)**. Our lead inspector, Mel Campbell, is qualified to provide post-installation and annual inspections of both indoor and outdoor play areas and is also qualified to conduct routine and operational accredited playground inspection training as recommended and recognised by the RPII.

Register
of Play
Inspectors
International
rpii



OUTDOOR PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS

Post-installation Inspections

It is recommended that Post-installation inspections are completed on all newly installed playgrounds or where significant improvements have been made to existing playgrounds. This inspection is your **Certificate of Compliance** and gives you peace of mind that your new facility has been installed correctly to the manufacturers instructions and is **safe for use**. If there are concerns highlighted in this report then you can ask the contractor to rectify them **before you accept the facility as being complete**.

Annual, Operational and Routine Inspections

All outdoor playgrounds are exposed to a mix of weathering, often heavy usage and, unfortunately, vandalism. It is **best practice**, as recommended in **EN1176**, to check outdoor playgrounds through an organised schedule of daily/weekly (routine), monthly/quarterly (operational) and annual independent inspections. Routine and operational inspections can be completed by **suitably qualified** 'competent persons' **within your organisation** and Play Services provides accredited **RPII training** specific to these inspections. Those successfully completing this training will also be registered with the RPII.

The European standards for playground equipment (**EN1176**) recommends that an annual inspection is carried out by a suitably 'competent person' and it is prudent that this person is a qualified RPII Annual Playground Inspector. This is where Play Services provide specialist skills. The standard also provides the benchmark against which our post-installation and annual inspections are carried out.

Our reports are acclaimed by clients as providing an extra level of detail and we work closely with our clients and tailor reports to suit their needs.



OUR ANNUAL OUTDOOR INSPECTIONS SERVICE INCLUDES:

- ✓ Detailed inspection report of all playground equipment and surfacing as well as ancillary items such as seats, fencing, bins and signs.
- ✓ Detailed photographic evidence, where non-compliance is identified.
- ✓ A comprehensive report, detailing all aspects of compliance or failure for each item of equipment - the report also includes a schedule of required maintenance work and a user friendly priority scoring system.

CONTACT US ON:

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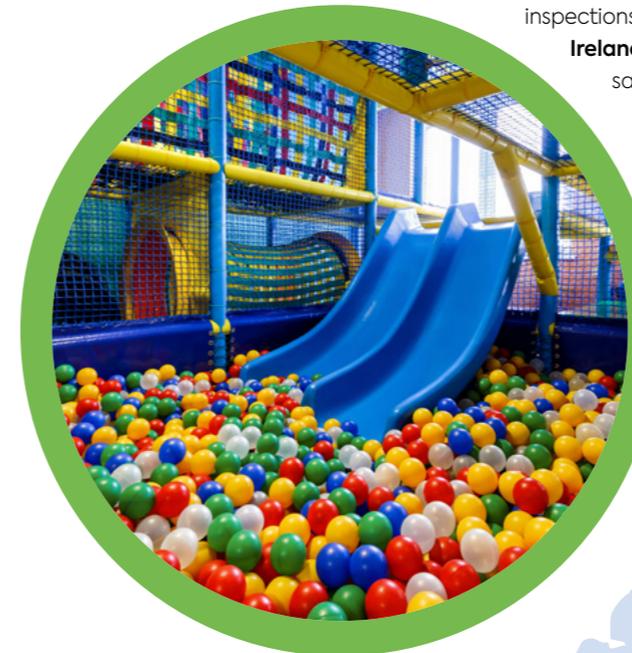
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INDOOR SOFT PLAY AREAS ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

Our wet climate means indoor soft play centres have become big business and Play Services are here to help you make sure that **your facilities are inspected regularly**.

As with outdoor playgrounds, the standards for indoor soft play areas recommend an **annual, independent inspection**. Many insurance companies now make it a requirement and signpost playground operators to Play Services to **minimise the risk of successful claims!**

Play Services are registered by the **RPII to conduct indoor soft play area inspections**. We conduct soft play area inspections **throughout the UK & Ireland** to a large number of satisfied customers.



OUR INDOOR INSPECTIONS SERVICE INCLUDES:

- ✓ Detailed inspection of all relevant equipment and other associated issues such as social areas, child protection, fire safety, security and numerous other policies that venues should have in place.
- ✓ Detailed photographic evidence, particularly where non-compliance is identified.
- ✓ A comprehensive report, detailing all aspects of compliance or failure for each item of equipment - the report also includes a schedule of required maintenance work.

TRAINING ON OUTDOOR PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

OUR TRAINING SERVICES INCLUDE:

- ✓ RPII Routine Inspection
An Accredited one-day course with RPII registration designed for staff who look after playgrounds on a daily or weekly basis.
- ✓ RPII Operational Inspection
An Accredited two-day course with RPII registration designed for those with greater responsibility who carry out quarterly inspections.
- ✓ RPII registration is valid for a period of three years and inspectors are recommended to attend a refresher course after three years has elapsed.

Play Services can inspect your outdoor playgrounds to any schedule you wish but most of our clients prefer to carry out their own routine (daily or weekly) and operational (quarterly) inspections.

In order to do this effectively staff should be trained to the desired level of competency specific to the inspection type being conducted. Play Services is a registered training house for the RPII and we can conduct both Routine and Operational Inspection Training for your staff. Play Services provide this training to clients throughout the UK & Ireland.

Our training is delivered to groups with a **minimum of eight participants**, ensuring the right level of personal attention. Our courses are very practical in nature and are delivered by Mel Campbell who will share his vast experience and many photographs collected over the years of inspecting playgrounds.

School Playground Inspection Training is **available for teachers and janitors** responsible for looking after these play facilities – this half day course will provide a suitable level of information required to assist in the competency of these staff inspecting these facilities.

We have regularly **scheduled training slots available throughout the year** in various locations. Alternatively, we often deliver training to several people at the same time for single organisations, generally at the **client's location**. If you have anyone that is interested in being trained, please contact us to arrange a date and quote.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Audits and Advice

Our founder, Mel Campbell, is qualified to **NVQ level 4 in Occupational Health and Safety Practice** and is a competent person to carry out a range of audits and risk assessments, including:

- ✓ **Play area risk assessments** – these are mandatory and are recommended alongside annual inspections and should be carried out on new play areas or when significant changes occur.
- ✓ **Disability access audits** – DAAs look in detail at the accessibility of not only the play equipment but also accessibility between equipment and accessibility to the play area, including paths, parking, gates, etc.

Expert witness

We also have experience of acting as an expert witness in cases involving **claims due to negligence**. These commissions include a detailed site audit, photographs and a comprehensive report on the playground equipment and surfacing. We will also support the report by an appearance in court, if required. We inspect multi-use games areas, outdoor gyms, skate parks, playgrounds and indoor play areas.

Maintenance

Play Services also offer a range of playground parts for those regular and recurring maintenance issues.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- ✓ It is important to have your playground maintained and regularly inspected. This includes the playground surface which needs to comply with the European standard EN 1177. You can arrange this test with the help of our HIC (Head Injury Criteria) meter.
- ✓ Play Services Ireland have launched a new range of Playsol products. They include a more environmentally friendly Playground Surface cleaner and Playground Equipment cleaner. These products can be diluted for a cost effective approach and are packaged for ease of use for all types of playground environments.
- ✓ We can also help you on a consultancy basis with the design and development of your play area, including areas involving natural play features. If you have a new project in the pipeline, please get in touch.

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