


Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board



Section: Schools

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE:
PR B: 09
PLAYGROUNDS/PLAYGROUND
EQUIPMENT PROCEDURE**

NUMBER:	PR B: 09
EFFECTIVE:	Feb 26, 2013
AMENDED:	
RELATED POLICIES:	See References
REPEALS:	
REVIEW DATE:	2016-2017

1.0 NEW PLAY STRUCTURES

- 1.1 Acknowledging the Board’s financial inability to install and maintain new play structures that meet the most current Canadian Standards Association (CSA) safety standards, the Board will no longer install any new play structures on Board property. This will include any structures purchased through fundraising and/or donated.

2.0 ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

- 2.1 All existing playground equipment and surfaces will be inspected annually by a qualified playground inspector retained by the Board.
- 2.2 The relevant provisions of the annual inspection report on equipment and surfaces will be provided to the Principal for discussion with the Catholic School Council.

3.0 REMOVAL OF EQUIPMENT

- 3.1 Any playground equipment deemed to be of no play value and/or beyond repair by the Senior Manager of Facilities Services, after consultation with the principal, will be removed at Board cost. Unsafe equipment shall be removed from service immediately pending repair and/or removal.
- 3.2 School Councils may elect and request that structures be removed at anytime, at Board cost.

4.0 INSPECTION

- 4.1 The Principal shall ensure that a daily visual inspection is done for each play structure and that the attached Daily Playground Safety Checklist (appendix “A”) is completed.
- 4.2 The Principal shall also complete the attached Monthly Playground Hazards Checklist (appendix “B”).

5.0 MAINTENANCE

- 5.1 For the 2012-2013 school year, the Board will maintain the play structures, not subject to removal under section 3.0 (above), in order to ensure safety and regulatory compliance.
- 5.2 Subsequent to the 2012-2013 school year, the cost of the repair and maintenance of play

structures will be borne by the school.

- 5.3 Subsequent to the 2012-2013 school year, an ongoing maintenance program for the play surfaces will be established and paid for by the school.
- 5.4 Principals shall maintain sufficient funds for the ongoing maintenance of the equipment and play surfaces.

6.0 SAFE USE OF EQUIPMENT

- 6.1 The Principal shall establish rules for use of the equipment that address the following:
 - a) Safety protocols (examples: no pushing, throwing of objects, fighting, or running around structures; taking turns; no scarves, loose drawstrings, skipping ropes permitted).
 - b) Students are not using the equipment beyond their physical ability.
 - c) Monitoring and control of number of students accessing the equipment.
 - d) Play equipment should be placed “off limits” when the following winter conditions exist:
 - i) Ground cover is frozen;
 - ii) Snow build-up on and around equipment;
 - iii) Ice or freezing rain;
 - iv) Students are wearing winter clothing in winter conditions (synthetic materials, such as nylon, reduces resistance, particularly on plastic slide beds)
- 6.2 At the beginning of each school year, the Principal shall communicate the playground rules to students, staff and volunteers and shall ensure that the rules are enforced throughout the year.

7.0 REVIEW WITH CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS

- 7.1 Reports on the condition of playground equipment and the terms of the Board Policy and Procedure B: 09 Playgrounds/Playground Equipment shall be reviewed annually with the Catholic School Council.