

(Excerpted from Catholic Mutual School Safety Manual)

Playground Equipment Safety Guidelines

Safety surveys should be conducted on a frequent and regularly scheduled basis. The following list will point out some of the danger points that should be checked on each safety survey.

AREA	YES	NO	LOCATION
1. Visible cracks, bending, warping, rusting or breaking of any component			
2. Deformation of open hooks, shackles, rings, links, etc.			
3. Worn swing hangers and chains			
4. Missing, damaged, or loose swing seats; heavy seats with sharp edges or corners			
5. Broken supports/anchors			
6. Footings exposed, cracked, or loose in the ground			
7. Accessible sharp edges or points			
8. Exposed ends of tubing that should be covered by plugs or caps			
9. Protruding bolt ends that do not have a smooth finished cap or cover			
10. Loose bolts, nuts, etc.			
11. Splintered, cracked or otherwise deteriorated wood			
12. Lack of lubrication on moving parts			
13. Worn bearings			
14. Broken or missing rails, steps, rungs, or seats			
15. Cushioning material thin or scattered under equipment and in landing pits*			

16. Hard surfaces, especially under swings, slides, etc.			
17. Chipped or peeling paint			
18. Vandalism (broken glass, trash, etc.)			
19. Pinch or crush points (exposed mechanisms, junctures of moving components; for example, the axis of seesaw)			
20. Tripping hazards, such as roots, rocks or other environmental obstacles			
21. Poor drainage area			

REMARKS:

Pastor / DRE / Youth Minister _____ **Date:** _____

*** The U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has established safety standards for playground surfaces. A minimum six inch depth of cushioning material (sand, pea gravel, wood chips, etc.) should be in place under all playground equipment where there is a potential fall from heights.**