

East Lothian Play Sufficiency Assessment

Appendix 2:

**Report by East Lothian Play Association and Can Do:
Play Sufficiency Assessment of the accessibility of
selected formal outdoor play spaces for
disabled children and their families in East Lothian**



East Lothian Play Association (ELPA) and Can Do Play Sufficiency Assessment – Final Report



East Lothian Play Sufficiency Report conducted 12th – 14th March 2023 East Lothian Play Association, SCIO and Can Do

Introduction

This report focuses on the useability and play value of play areas in East Lothian, highlighting the perspectives of disabled children, and families where any member of the family has additional support needs (ASN). It draws together engagement with children, young people and families in March 2023, a series of site visits conducted by ELPA and Can Do in September 2022 in preparation for the PlayCan initiative, and findings from our inclusive play survey completed in Spring 2022.

ELPA and Can Do are key providers of play opportunities for children and young people in East Lothian. ELPA delivers support to play in a range of school and community settings including regular Play Ranger sessions in local spaces such as parks and green spaces. Can Do is a parent-led charity providing play, recreation, and social opportunities to children and young with additional support needs. The two charities work together in partnership for inclusive play primarily through our recent PlayCan initiative delivering year-round, inclusive, and accessible outdoor play sessions.

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Accompanying documents: copies of the children and young people survey forms.

1. Key findings

- The social elements of play and social value of play spaces – being with friends, playing with siblings, meeting other families – were emphasised by children, young people and families. Carefully considering the social dimensions of play at design stages would increase the value of play areas as important community spaces. Opportunities for social play were generally lacking and when present were not accessible.
- One child highlighted that to ‘move around easily’ would be the thing they’d most like to be able to do in a play space. Adults, including disabled parents and carers, also need accessible play spaces. Lack of seating was highlighted by children and adults. Choices of surfaces and positioning of equipment also restricted access. Children and young people with ASN should not be left as spectators while other children play.
- Instead of narrowly focusing on physical play through equipment, other types of play and a wider range of play are highly valued by children, young people and families. Opportunities for sensory play, creative play, social play, role play etc. can be brought in through good design and natural elements in the environment. This report found opportunities for these valued types of play were missing. Where there are opportunities for natural and sensory play, they are often inaccessible or haven’t been looked after (e.g. overgrown areas).
- Where there is one piece of accessible equipment (e.g. roundabout) once the child or young person has played on it, there are no other pieces of equipment to offer fun, stimulation or enjoyment, cutting experiences short, in comparison to able-bodied peers.
- We note that opportunities for different types of play and ways to play, tend to decrease through age brackets, with older children and teens less well-served than young children. This is particularly of note for children with ASN whose preferences and needs in play may not be the same as typically developing peers.
- Families noted lack of suitable opportunities and spaces for children with ASN to play the way they would like to in East Lothian. While some factors that would make a difference were physical, such as access to toilets, shelter and transport, others were about the need for information and feeling welcome and included.
- Having playworkers, play rangers or youth workers to support play provides an additional element of accessibility and inclusion that doesn’t come from the physical space itself. Research has noted the positive impact of trusted adults sensitively supporting play.
- We are concerned by the lack of opportunities for children and young people with complex needs. Where are the places in East Lothian where they can play?
- Safe, accessible routes to play parks are important to allow children and young people freedom to explore their local area. Ensuring these are accessible benefits a wide range of people. Lighting on these routes is important especially for children and young people who have to travel back from a school out with their local area.

- Using the Play Sufficiency Assessment Tool is a useful way to gain an objective sense of how play spaces rate on accessibility and inclusion. The play opportunities section however really underlines how the play needs of children and young people with ASN are frequently overlooked. It is possible to score 'yes' to the majority of play opportunity criteria while there being next to no play opportunities available to children with ASN particularly older children, and children using wheelchairs and mobility aids.

2. Report on engagement of children and young people March 2023

2.1 Locations and participants

- Play area at Neilson Park, Haddington - 13 members of the ASN Youth Club completed surveys supported by eight volunteers and three youth workers.
- Play area at the Bleachingfield Centre, Dunbar - 18 children and accompanying adults completed play surveys during a PlayCan session.
- Play area at Whitecraig Park - 17 children and accompanying adults completed play surveys during an ELPA Play Rangers session.

The visit to Neilson Park was held during the regular Can Do Youth Club for children and young people with ASN which is held at nearby Meadowpark-Knox Academy. The children participating ranged from 11-18 years and have a wide range of ASN including wheelchair users, physical disability, hearing impairment, autism, learning disabilities and visual impairment. Members attend the specialist youth club provision at Can Do, as they require a high ratio of support to access community resources.

The Bleachingfield and Whitecraig sessions were held during staffed open-access outdoor play sessions which use a Play Ranger model. The range of ASN at Bleachingfield, which was a PlayCan session and therefore aimed at children and families with ASN included wheelchair and mobility aid users, physical disability, hearing impairment, learning disability, autism, speech and language impairment. Whitecraig, which was a regular Play Ranger session and therefore aimed at the local community, included 5 children with additional support needs.

In total 48 children and families participated, aged from approximately 3- 19. The open-access sessions also included siblings and local children and families.

2.2 Methods

ELPA and Can Do developed a consultation pack which included:

- a fold-out child-friendly survey sheet based on the Play Opportunities Assessment Tool
- a cardboard folder with a bulldog clip so it could also be used as a clipboard
- pens and stickers in each folder
- notes for volunteers and staff facilitating engagement.

The packs created a consistent basis for the engagement. The ELPA and Can Do teams actively facilitated participation by:

- supporting participants to fill out the forms
- encouraging them to offer views to be recorded, while being respectful of children's play
- recording their views on their behalf (e.g., adding captions to drawings using their own words)
- capturing views expressed non-verbally
- adapting their practice to the needs or preferences of participants as they went along (e.g., adapting a game to capture views and preferences).

In this way the engagement was fun, creative and appropriate to the participants.

Following the engagement, ELPA and Can Do consolidated the data for each location with:

- Play Opportunities Assessment Tool - Group Assessment
- Play Sufficiency Assessment
- Summary included here as findings.



Picture 1&2: Examples of Play Packs used to gather survey responses.

Notes on methods Neilson Park

Children were invited to play at the park accompanied by Youth Club volunteers who also observed their play, interactions, and movement around the play area. The visit took place in the early evening, so dusk limited the length of the visit.

On returning to the Youth Club setting, Youth Club members were invited to complete a play survey, supported by a youth worker. 11 out of the 13 members who visited the park participated in the survey feedback.

The Can Do Co-ordinator completed a Group Assessment on behalf of the club, which collated children's views, and a Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) of the park based on observations. (See Appendices C and D).

Notes on methods Bleachingfield

After an explanation about the project, children and families were invited to complete a play survey. The survey was adapted to be inclusive and child friendly, children were invited to write, draw, talk, or use stickers to share their views. Some children did this independently, some completed the survey as a family, with other children. ELPA staff facilitated the process.

Families helped PlayCan staff to complete a group assessment which also collated children's views, two PlayCan staff completed a PSA. (See Appendices E and F).

Notes on methods Whitecraig

Again, after an explanation about the project, children and families were invited to complete a child friendly survey. Some children did this independently, some completed the survey as a family. ELPA staff were mindful not to interrupt children's play. Some children chatted to staff while playing and their responses were noted.

During the session, ELPA staff realised that children who were enjoying active games were not participating in the survey. After asking children if they would be happy to answer questions, the approach was altered to blend with their game of "red, red river". In this way, children's responses to questions were noted. After the game, children engaged further by asking questions and showing staff around the park.

Families helped ELPA staff to complete a group assessment which also collated children's views. Several parents chose to complete an assessment independently. ELPA staff also completed a PSA. (See Appendices G and H).

2.3 Findings

Summary

- The social aspect of play parks, playing and being with friends is the most common way children of all ages and abilities said they most liked to play.
- Much more accessible equipment is needed as well as a range of equipment for different ages and abilities and it should be laid out in such as to allow children to play together.
- Design and surfaces to allow all children to move around, explore and get to the play equipment and opportunities on offer is crucial. It should be easy to move around a space.
- Opportunities for role play are important to children of all ages.
- Sensory play with sand, water and natural elements was often requested and would be a popular addition to play spaces, widening the play opportunities available, increasing play value and supporting more inclusive play.
- Children enjoy using equipment in their own way, for example for pretending, hanging out, parkour, more risk and adventurous play. They often did this despite what was on offer rather than because of it
- Older and bigger children and teens are less well-served than young children. Children with ASN may prefer and needs to play in ways that are not be the same as typically developing peers.
- Areas adjacent to and around play parks, including wilder, natural spaces are important and need to be accessible for children, young people, and adults (including parents and carers) using wheelchair and mobility aids.

Neilson Park – Group Assessment

Observation from Co-ordinator during visit:

There were limited pieces of equipment the members could access, due to lack of equipment suitable for children and young people with different needs, older and bigger children. Members showed an interest in the role play equipment but were unable to access it so lost interest.

What do you like best?

- Bark
- Spinning seat
- 2 x the roundabout, but it was frozen tonight, or it's gone stiff 😞
- 3 x Flying fox.
- Bowl swing
- The swings



Picture: Flying Fox

Improvements - if you had a magic wand, how would you make this play space better?

Making the play space more accessible for wheelchair users or users who rely on mobility aids was mentioned frequently by group members. One respondent answered 'moving around easily' when asked what they liked best. This answer is showing what they would like in the park, rather than how they experienced it during this visit.

Other answers included:

- I have no idea – it doesn't really need to be better.
- Jelly Belly
- Fort/Castle
- Interactive Tactile Board for sensory feedback.
- Sand
- Water play
- More height inclusive
- More mental stimulation (colour, numbers)
- Accessible swing
- More accessible things to play on
- Ramps
- Better surface for wheelchair users
- Sensory and musical interactive equipment
- Treehouse
- Woodland / fairy walk
- Sensory Trail



Youth Workers reported that the park lacks opportunities for those with complex needs. There were no play opportunities at differing heights to accommodate different disabilities. Although adjacent to woodland and previously having accessed a wishing tree, hidden within shrubbery, which provided some sensory stimulation, this area was now overgrown and inaccessible. Those using wheelchairs or with mobility aids could only access the upper area of the park due to the bark and uneven mounds, therefore leaving them isolated when visiting with a group. Once they had enjoyed the wheelchair swing, there were no other pieces of equipment to offer them fun, stimulation or enjoyment, cutting their experience short, in comparison to able bodied peers.

Inclusion - what could be better for everyone?

Wheelchair accessible swing was mentioned by a number of members and youth workers.

Lighting around the park would extend the opportunity to play during the hours of dusk – important for opportunities for teenage age group.



Bark and raised grass made most areas inaccessible for those with mobility difficulties or challenges, limiting opportunity for them. Stable surfaces designed into the layout of the play area are required to make features of the play area accessible and inclusive.

Significant points

Many children do not attend school within their hometown. They have to travel to and from specialist schools using private or provided transport. They therefore don't have the same opportunities to 'play' on their routes to and from school. Without appropriate lighting in play parks, the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of play are limited in the evenings, adding further disadvantage to those who have ASN in comparison to their mainstream peers.

Play Sufficiency Assessment: Neilson Park summary

Accessibility: Neilson Park has two or more barrier free opportunities, but it is not possible to move freely around at least half of the space, scoring 2 out of a possible 5.

Inclusion: Neilson Park does not have two or more barrier-free play opportunities integrated into the main play space nor is there infrastructure to support and enable access to the play space. There has been no consultation to inform inclusion to our knowledge, scoring 2 out of a possible 8.

Neilson Park had reasonable scores for location, features, characteristics and environment however started to fall down on play opportunities. The types of play and ways to play were more limited than might be expected and dropped off up the age brackets. It scored reasonably well for the youngest children but not for older children and teens. Opportunities for creative play and nature play were noticeably absent, though nature play has the potential to be available in this space. Opportunities decreased further for children and young people using wheelchairs or mobility aids, or whose parents and carers use these.

See Appendix D for the full PSA.

Bleachingfield Group Assessment

What do you like best?

Playing with friends was a common response to what do you like best, "having fun and laughing." The social aspect is important for everyone, a parent commented that the park is "Good for meeting other families."

The following box summarises the responses when asked What do you like best?



Good for meeting other families, near to loos and shops, near to home, good range of equipment, swings for little people alongside spaces for older, location, banana slide, nautical theme, playing with my sister, parkour over fence, the big swing, the ship, rope climbing thing, pretending, climbing bits, playing together, the wheel (spinning), having fun and laughing, running and playing with friends, music, being outside, feeling important.

Improvements - if you had a magic wand, how would you make this play space better?

Features that support role play and pretending were mentioned across a wide age range. Ideas included microphones, spaces to perform and a larger version of the ship that is in the space. The lack of natural features was mentioned with sand, water and trees being requested.

There is a feeling that the park needs more for older children and young people "It's better for littler kids." Older children asked for larger equipment, skate area and parkour. Despite the lack of parkour equipment, children are finding ways to do this "There's no parkour stuff but we use the fence. We don't use the gate, we parkour over the fence."

"Needs love" was one comment, there is a feeling that the park is worn and uncared for. The café in the community centre is clearly missed.

If you had a magic wand, what would make this space better?

Café reopening, more trees, needs love! fix mushrooms and dead space, benches, smaller slide, bigger slide, pavement too narrow, more pedestrian routes, skatepark, sandpit, to play with someone, swings for older children, drawing space, water park, a little house, parkour equipment, trees, flowers, nature, more climbing frames, a bigger ship, more for older kids, more running space, microphones, a stage, role play, trampolines, more swings that aren't 'baby' swings, shelter, toilets, café, disabled equipment, links with organisations, groups.

General comments

Several respondents commented that this is an important park due to its location – close to the school, community centre, library and shops. Investment in cycle paths means adults feel the area is safe and children have freedom to visit the park independently. "It's all interconnected, you can't look at the park in isolation." The cycle path links Bleachingfield play area with Lauderdale playpark. Parents and children mentioned that they like to travel between these.

Inclusion - what could be better for everyone?

"Wheelchair access is important. Disabled swings etc please!!" "Please more disabled equipment, there is so little." This comment is about East Lothian as a whole, at this play area there is no accessible equipment if you are physically disabled and use a mobility aid or wheelchair.

Seating was mentioned by adults and children as well as toilets. There is no accessible seating. The quiet areas and hang out areas used by children and young people are not accessible if physically disabled and use a mobility aid or wheelchair.

Lower "fidget playthings requested.

"Would be great to link with other organisations e.g. bikes to visit parks...more groups for disabled young people running session for outdoor activities."

Seating and shelter were mentioned too.

Again, the social aspect is important "to play with someone" was a child's answer to make the park better for everyone.



Significant points

Although the surface is accessible, there is no accessible equipment within the playpark. Positioning of a bench restricts movement around the space for anyone using a wheelchair or mobility aid.

The park is seen as an important social space and the connections to other parts of the town, activities and the physical ways these are linked is important.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Bleachingfield play area summary

Accessibility: Bleachingfield has no barrier free opportunities nor participation opportunities for users with differing abilities, scoring 1 out of a possible 5.

Inclusion: Bleachingfield has no barrier-free play opportunities, there is some infrastructure but no consultation to inform inclusion to our knowledge, scoring 1 out of a possible 8.

Bleachingfield play area had reasonable scores for location and features but scored poorly on environmental factors. The types of play and ways to play were scored in the mid-range of possible scores but dropped off for older children and teens. Opportunities for creative play and nature play were noticeably absent. Opportunities decreased considerably for children and young people using wheelchairs or mobility aids, or whose parents and carers use these.

See Appendix F for the full PSA.

Whitecraig Group Assessment

What do you like best?

The basket swing, which has been missing for some time was mentioned by most children.

Socialising, playing with friends is mentioned by 59% of children.

Children enjoy finding their own ways to use the equipment and make it riskier. In response to the question, what do you like best, one child answered "Climbing on top of the baby swings. I don't think they meant us to do that!"



no hitting

What do you like best?

There are 2 slides, climbing on top of the baby swings, climbing frames, slide, play, missing basket swings, football pitch, monkey bars and fireman's pole, sheep to rock on, running about games, going on the swings.

Improvements - if you had a magic wand, what would make this space better?

What could be better?
a big huge swing!!
a basket swing

Children and adults feel the space is better for older children. Many children asked for bigger swings – "proper ones, not baby ones." More larger size equipment was requested.

Out of 17 children, 15 asked for bigger swings and 14 specifically asked for the basket swing to be repaired.

If you had a magic wand, what would make this space better?

Fix basket swing, proper swings, more climbing, more for wee ones, tunnel slide, somewhere to sit, bigger slide, big swings, toilets, seesaw, obstacle course, more stuff to play on, fix the basket swing!, big swings – not baby ones, Huggy Wuggy to visit, use some of the grass to make a bigger play park, fitness stuff for adults, a big huge swing, a basket swing, somewhere to sit and eat, den, skate park, pump track, jumping pillow, shelter, picnic benches.

Inclusion

There is no accessible equipment if you are physically disabled and use a mobility aid or wheelchair. Despite the ramp at the entrance, access into the park could be difficult as the bark level is low, causing a sudden drop at the gate.

Seating was mentioned by adults and children as well as toilets. There is no accessible seating. The quiet areas and hang out areas used by children and young people are not accessible if physically disabled and use a mobility aid or wheelchair.

Significant points

One child would use a magic wand to “all be friends, no fighting, no hitting.”

The culture within the playpark is important as well as the equipment. In this location, several children asked for “more for wee ones – they only have two things!” A child’s drawing shows swings for different ages side by side.

There is annoyance among children and adults that several times, this piece of equipment has been returned only to be removed again shortly afterwards. When invited to participate in the group assessment, three parents asked to complete their own as they have asked for improvements to the park several times and are very frustrated.



Play Sufficiency Assessment Whitecraig play area summary.

Accessibility: Whitecraig play area has no barrier free opportunities nor participation opportunities for users with differing abilities, scoring 1 out of a possible 5.

Inclusion: Whitecraig play area has no barrier-free play opportunities, there is no infrastructure to support inclusion and no consultation to inform inclusion to our knowledge, scoring 1 out of a possible 8.

Whitecraig play area scores well for location, but poorly for features and environmental factors. It dropped from 4 to 3 through the age brackets for characteristics. The types of play and ways to play were scored in the mid-range of possible scores for the youngest children, but dropped off for primary aged children, for older children and teens. Opportunities for challenging/risky play, creative play and nature play were noticeably absent. Opportunities decreased considerably for children and young people using wheelchairs or mobility aids, or whose parents and carers use these.

See Appendix H for the full PSA.

How do like to play the most? Comparison between the three spaces with responses on the day, recorded through the survey forms. Most popular options highlighted in yellow, second in green.

	Neilson Park play area	Bleachingfield play area	Whitecraig Park play area
Active	4	7	8
Risky	2	6	8
Challenging	3	7	8
Creative	2	8	7
Social	6	10	10
Nature	6	7	3
Total participants	11	17	18

3. Report on East Lothian inclusive play survey (2022)

A short survey was conducted in 2022, through a desire to make ELPA activities as inclusive as possible, and to identify any new or different factors that could be considered to support inclusive play opportunities. This originated from ELPA's core belief that *'all children in East Lothian should have equal opportunities to play freely in the ways they choose'*.

Can Do supported the dissemination of this survey to families within their existing support network, and over social media platforms.

Responses were obtained from 34 East Lothian residents. The majority of responses (91.2%) were provided from parents and carers, others answered the questions as a family or were answered by teenagers with additional support needs.

The responses of the survey concluded:

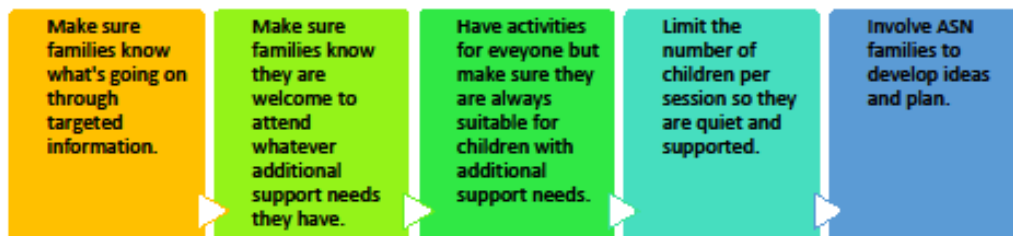
The most important factors when choosing somewhere to play are:



The following factors were ranked in level of importance:

1	• Accessible toilet and changing facilities.
2	• Shade, shelter or places to rest.
3	• Public Transport stops
4	• Suitable equipment for older or bigger children with additional support needs.
5	• Parking
6	• Surfaces we can move around on easily.
7	• Accessible play equipment.
8	• Changing places toilet (fully accessible and inclusive)
9	• Accessible seating and tables.
10	• Staff, like youth workers, playworkers or others there to support play.

When asked if anything gets in the way of playing the way you would like to? The following responses were given:



The survey identified the top 5 things to focus on to be more inclusive as:



Respondents highlighted the following, as places offering positive inclusive play experiences:

- East Links Family Park www.eastlinks.co.uk
- Jump-in (Musselburgh) www.gojumpin.com
- Edinburgh Zoo www.edinburghzoo.org.uk
- Can Do www.can-do.scot
- Ormiston Park www.greenflagaward.org/park-summary/?park=3983

- Yellowcraig [Yellowcraig - Visit East Lothian](#)
- The Yard www.theyardscotland.org.uk
- Centre de Decouverte du Son (France) www.cdson.org
- ELPA www.elpa.org.uk
- Pittencrief Park [Exploring the Park | Fife Council](#)

Finally, the following advice was shared to make play spaces more inclusive and accessible:

- Every play park should have at least one piece of play equipment suitable for a child with ASN.
- Make sure playparks don't have woodchip – it isn't accessible!
- Have steps up to climbing frames that are flat – not poles – to place feet easily.
- Have ideas for playing in natural environments close to more traditional play parks.
- Include wheelchair swing in play park designs.

Full copy of the survey findings can be found on (Appendix K).

4. Report from site visits and PlayCan sessions

In September 2022, following the Inclusive Play Survey, staff from ELPA and Can Do jointly undertook site visits to 8 play spaces across East Lothian. The purpose was to identify possible locations to pilot inclusive play sessions, following the Play Ranger model. We visited 8 sites, 3 of these were formal play spaces – Sandy Park in Musselburgh, Cemetery (PL) park in Prestonpans and Bleachingfield Centre park, Dunbar.

During the visits a shortened version of the draft Play Assessment Tool was used. This format was extremely useful to sharpen our observations and gave a common approach across spaces and assessors. For the purposes of the project development, the assessments informed a group discussion immediately afterwards.

Across the sites there was a lack of nature integrated within formal play areas. For this reason, we also visited a garden, beach, and green space to consider for the organised play sessions.

None of the visited spaces offered any accessible play equipment. As the ELPA Play Rangers would be providing additional resources, parking, safety of a well-defined play space, seating and shelter were the key considerations.

For the pilot project, we decided that providing detailed location information would be important as well as a consistent welcoming point and resources.

'Location sheets' have been developed for all ELPA Play Ranger and PlayCan sites, these aim to support families to make an informed choice about attending, support planning and give confidence. This responds to the feedback received from the previous survey showing that families needed information and needed to feel welcome and included. The location information covers parking, public transport, toilets, wheelchair access, seating, things to be aware of, resources and photos of

the location. A library of location sheets has begun to be developed on ELPA's website. [PlayCan | Location Information for Inclusive Play Sessions | East Lothian Play Association \(elpa.org.uk\)](#)

The locations most relevant to this Play Sufficiency Survey are:

1. Sandy Park, Fisherrow Harbour, Musselburgh
2. Cemetery (PL) Park, Prestonpans
3. Bleachingfield Centre, Dunbar
4. Whitecraig Park.

Two of these are covered above so we undertook fresh PSAs for Cemetery (PL) Park and Sandy Park.

PlayCan sessions demonstrate how staffed play opportunities add value to public spaces. The sessions increased access to outdoor play for children, young people and families with ASN, including during the winter months, through:

- Supporting play with staff widening the ways of playing and types of play available to children and young people of all ages and adding resources such as tents, hammocks, sensory play, water, loose parts.
- Supporting the social dimensions of play and gathering together.
- Creating a welcoming and accepting environment.
- Providing practical information to allow families to make informed choices about locations.
- Listening to children and families.

"The kids love the freedom of the sessions. I have 3 children, each with a different idea of fun. They love the fact that each child has something of interest."

PlayCan offered activities and resources such as:

- Games and people to play with
- Hammocks and parachute
- Large loose parts
- Sound, music, percussion, inc. pots and pans etc.
- Natural resources e.g. leaves, pine cones etc
- The play environment - e.g. paths, trees, beach
- Smaller loose parts - e.g. mud kitchen bits and pieces
- Sensory resources.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Cemetery Park play area, (PL) Prestonpans summary

Accessibility: Cemetery Park play area, (PL) has no barrier free opportunities but does have some limited participation opportunities for users with differing abilities, scoring 1 out of a possible 5.

Inclusion: Cemetery Park play area, (PL) has no barrier-free play opportunities, there is no infrastructure to support inclusion and no consultation to inform inclusion to our knowledge, scoring 1 out of a possible 8.

Cemetery Park play area, (PL) area scores well for location, but poorly for features, environmental factors and characteristics. It scored a maximum of 14 out of 28 for types of play and ways to play but dropped further for older children and teens. Opportunities for challenging/risky play were limited, and opportunities for creative play and nature play were noticeably absent. Opportunities decreased considerably for children and young people using wheelchairs or mobility aids, or whose parents and carers use these.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Sandy Park, Fisherrow play area summary

Accessibility: Sandy Park play area has no barrier free opportunities nor participation opportunities for users with differing abilities, scoring 1 out of a possible 5.

Inclusion: Sandy Park play area has no barrier-free play opportunities, there is no infrastructure to support inclusion and no consultation to inform inclusion to our knowledge, scoring 1 out of a possible 8.

Sandy Park play area scores well for location, reasonably well for features but poorly for environmental factors. It dropped from 5 for children up to 11 years, down to 2 for 12-17 year olds for characteristics. The types of play and ways to play scored poorly (below the mid-range of possible scores) for the children up to 11 years, but dropped off to scores of 3 and 2 for older children and teens. Opportunities decreased considerably for children and young people using wheelchairs or mobility aids, or whose parents and carers use these.