

St Matthew's Church
The Parish of Edgeley and Cheadle Heath



Risk Assessment For:	Use of Bouncy Castle / Inflatables
Assessment signed off by (Warden):	
Assessment signed off by (Clergy):	
Assessment carried out by (H&S):	
Assessment Date:	
Review Due:	

Kids love a bouncy castle, but government statistics indicate that every year they are the cause of between 2500 and 3000 accidents – source Ecclesiastical Insurance

	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	What we are already doing	What further action is necessary	Lead	Deadline	Done
1	Inadequate Insurance Cover	Everyone – cost of repairs and personal injury claims	Public liability insurance up to date	Check inflatables are compliant with the PIPA Inflatable play accreditation scheme Check public liability insurance amount			
2	Poorly maintained equipment	Anyone handling the inflatable, and child participants – electrical shock, cuts, burns, broken limbs etc	Examined inflatable, blower and electrical system before event Examined again at beginning and close of each event day PIPA label noted on castle	PAT test electrical system			

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	Hazard	Who might be harmed and how	What we are already doing	What further action is necessary	Lead	Deadline	Done
3	Self Operation	Anyone handling the inflatable, and child participants – injury	Set up and supervised by experienced volunteers Written instructions checked on setup / operation Castle borrowed from school so not possible to check Supplier/manufacturer details				
4	Manual handling – weighty and unwieldy	People setting up the equipment – injury, strains, back problems	Sufficient number of people to move and set up / dismantle Minimised carrying distance	Arrange training for individuals in correct lifting techniques			
5	Poor siting of equipment	Child Participants – falling onto blower or obstructions, injury	Sited in sheltered spot, clear of obstructions, with sufficient room for inflatable and blower Blower at least 1-2m from inflatable				
6	Instability and collapse of bouncy castle	Child Participants – injury	Not used in high winds or wet weather All anchorage points used				
7	Falling out of castle	Child Participants – slips, falls, cuts abrasions	<u>Keeping participants closely supervised and warning if too close to the edge</u>	Place soft matting adjacent to open sides			

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8	Inadequate supervision	Child Participants – slips, falls, cuts, abrasions	<p>One volunteer per castle, constantly supervising, with cover for relief</p> <p>All volunteers 16+ years, with at least one lead 18+ volunteer</p> <p>Volunteers have read the laminated rules</p> <p>Volunteers are aware of the following rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove shoes - Remove sharp objects such as buckles, jewellery - Remove items from pockets, and glasses if possible - No hanging from the front apron or hanging / climbing on the walls - No eating or drinking whilst bouncing 	Appoint one extra volunteer to help with constant cover			

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9	Overheating and over exhaustion	Child Participants – dehydration and exhaustion	Limit activity to 3 minute bursts, with no-one allowed more than two consecutive slots; useful also for queue management	Keep cool drinks available and encourage participants to drink			
10	Overloading	Child Participants – injury from bumping or falling out; bullying or over excitement	Children divided into age bands, with two separate castles	Agree maximum number at any one time e.g. 4 on the castle for smaller children, or 3 on the castle for larger children Agree age / height restrictions If only one castle available arrange a rota system of time slots by height			
11	Emergencies	Anyone – death, personal injury, damage to property	Qualified First Aider on site at events Stocked First Aid kit Volunteers know Emergency Contact Numbers	Develop and document Emergency Action Plan (see Tower RA appendix 2) Develop and document Fire Action plan			