

Hughes Primary School

Learning for Life

Groom Street Hughes ACT 2605 Telephone: 02 6142 0730 Facsimile: 02 6142 0747 E-mail: <u>info_hughesps@ed.act.edu.au</u> Website: <u>http://www.hughesps.act.edu.au</u>



Considerations for Setting up Outdoor Equipment

Educators at Hughes Preschool value the learning that occurs in the outdoor environment and the potential for children to challenge themselves both physically and cognitively. To ensure the safety of children in the outdoor environment, educators need to consider the placement and suitability of non-fixed/mobile equipment. In particular, the following aspects should be considered:

- Does the equipment meet Australian Standards?
- Will the placement of a particular piece of equipment allow children to access dangerous areas, (e.g. climb over the fence/gate, access the roof etc)?
- Is the height of the equipment greater than 1500mm?
- Is there appropriate material under the equipment fall zone (e.g. soft fall, tan bark etc)? Should mats be placed under equipment to extend/enhance the fall zone?
- Are components of mobile equipment joined together in such a way as to provide maximum stability and minimise the potential for children's fingers getting caught?

Educators will follow OH&S procedures regarding unsafe equipment and report dangerous hazards immediately to the Business Manager. Educators can record maintenance jobs through the GSO job logger on Sentral.