

Children's Resource Use During Covid-19 (updated August 20)

The following list outlines which resources can and cannot be used within the Safer Play Groups and the safety measures that need to be in place. These measures will only be effective where stringent hand hygiene procedures are followed, and safer play groups are adhered to as per our policy.

Resource	Yes/No	If yes what age range	Safety management	Comments
Role Play				
Plastic resources	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Crockery	Yes	Over twos if used to using those resources with role play risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	
Metal pots and pans	Yes	All ages with role play risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	More frequent rotation in under twos
Cutlery	Yes	Over 3s with role play RA	Discussion with PS children on hygiene when in use. Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	
Dressing up clothes	Yes	All ages with role play RA	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	
Record Players	Yes	Risk assessment	Wiped over after every use.	
Dolls If easy to clean	Yes	Manufacturers guidelines	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	
Real Fruit and Veg	No		Not too be used.	
Empty food or washing packaging	Yes	Risk assessment	Rotate, wash, or dispose of safely.	See Covid19 life span guidance and follow.
Recipe books, shopping lists	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and wipe over regularly	
Weighing scales	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean after group use	
Jewellery box	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean after group use	
Brushes (hair)	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean after group use	Brushes with bristles that can be cleaned
Bags and hats	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	
Shoes (no heels)	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	See Covid19 life span guidance and follow.
Cushions and blankets for seating area.	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies and toddlers
Comics, books, and magazine	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate, clean regularly or dispose	Remove any chewed books/magazines
Telephones, remote controls, gadgets	Yes	As age appropriate with risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Loose parts- stones, bottle top lids, corks, and feathers etc.	Yes to all but feathers	Older children with Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly or dispose	Check with choke tester where appropriate
Lamps and mirrors	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean regularly	Ensure positioned safely
Pinecones, conkers	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, wash or replace regularly	

Resource	Yes/No	If yes what age range	Safety management	Comments
Construction				
Tyres (big/small)	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean regularly	Replace where is needed within the babies and toddlers
Cable reels (big/small)	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean regularly	See Covid19 life span guidance and follow
Wooden blocks (big/small)	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	Provide a range of different sizes in smaller amounts.
Long/short planks of wood.	Yes		Rotate and clean regularly	See Covid19 life span guidance and follow
Cardboard boxes (big/small)	Yes	All ages	Boxes must be kept in storage for 24 hours before use. Rotate daily	Replace where is needed within the babies and toddlers.
Cardboard tubes	Yes	All ages	must be kept in storage for 24 hours before use. Rotate daily	Replace where is needed within the babies and toddlers
Plastic tubes	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean daily	More frequent wash and rotation in babies and toddlers
Crates	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean after session	
Containers, plastic/metal	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean daily	More frequent wash and rotation in babies and toddlers
Hard hats, bicycle helmets.	Yes	All ages	Clean after use	
Dressing up materials.	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	
Clipboards, paper, and pens.	Yes	All ages	Rotate and clean or dispose as appropriate	
Rulers, tape measures	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	
Plastic construction (lego, stickle bricks etc)	Yes	As per manufacturers guidelines	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	
Wooden train track	Yes	As per manufacturers guidelines	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	
Small world	Yes	As per manufacturers guidelines	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	
Baby room Soft Furnishings				
Cushions, bean bags, blankets, soft mats.	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and wash/clean regularly	Only bean bags and cushions that the covers can go through the washing machine
Ribbons	Yes	All ages, risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and wash regularly	
Rugs	Yes	All ages	No outdoor shoes inside Reduce so can be rotated and cleaned. If cant go through washer use recommended cleaning spray	Staff and children to wear indoor shoes or slippers.

Resource	Yes/No	If yes what age range	Safety management	Comments
Carpets	Yes	All ages	No outdoor shoes inside Clean regularly	Staff and children to wear indoor shoes or slippers
Loose parts				
Wooden curtain rings	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Sponges	No		Do not use	
Sensory bottles	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Sensory balls	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Wooden/wicker baskets	Yes	All ages	Clean after session	
wooden threading activity boxes.	Yes	All ages	Clean after session	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Wooden cup tree/ kitchen roll holder	Yes	All ages	Clean after session	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Metal cup tree/kitchen roll holder.	Yes	All ages	Clean after session	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Bangles	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Big/small cardboard boxes.	Yes	All ages	Boxes must be kept in storage for 24 hours before use. Rotate daily	Replace where is needed within the babies
Big/small cardboard tubes	Yes	All ages	must be kept in storage for 24 hours before use. Rotate daily	Replace where is needed within the babies
Crates	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean after session	
Cable reels	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean regularly	See Covid19 life span guidance and follow
Large lids and stones	Yes	All ages with risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	
Sticks from nursery garden.	Yes	Risk assessment	Replace daily	Replace where is needed within the babies
Treasure baskets				
Metal objects	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Wooden and natural objects	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Books				
Material books	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Paper books	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Hard back books	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Interactive books	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	More frequent wash and rotation in babies

Resource	Yes/No	If yes what age range	Safety management	Comments
Puppets	Yes	All ages	Rotate and wash daily	More frequent wash and rotation in babies
Soft toys	Only if washing will not affect their safety i.e parts might loose.	All ages if needed (good for SR and wellbeing) Consider perhaps not having them readily available but bring them out as needed.	Must be cleaned daily. Be mindful that it will not always be practical to put in washing machine daily. Consider reducing dramatically so that rotation allows for this. Particularly for babies who will dribble on them and put them in their mouths	
Malleable and creative				
Sand play	No (England) Yes (Scotland)	Older children not babies	Large sand trays can be used or individual containers. No sand play on the floor at this time. All sand resources must be cleaned daily and the edges of the sand tray must be wiped down daily	If a child sneezes or dribbles/spits in the sand this will be replaced as soon as is practicable.
Playdough	Yes	for older children, not for babies	If being shared in a group this must be discarded daily. Labelled tubs for individual children can be kept for a little longer if well supervised.	Tools and utensils must be washed daily.
Water play	Yes	Older children who will not drink the water. Water can be in a large tray for up to 4 or in small containers for individual play.	Water to be changed sessionally. If a child sneezes or coughs in the water, replace the water as soon as practicable	Soapy water would improve the hygiene (use approved soap for children)
Tools and utensils for malleable play	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	
Painting activities	Yes	Risk assessment	Paint and brushes to rotated and washed regularly.	Ensure easels are wiped down daily
Outdoor Play				
Digging equipment (Spades, shovels, containers, and spoons)	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean daily	Providing equipment for each safer play group where possible.
Testing equipment Tubes, jugs, tins, and containers	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean daily	Providing equipment for each safer play group

Investigating equipment- magnifying glasses,	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean daily	Providing equipment for each safer play group
soil, herbs, and plants.	Yes		Check for cleanliness daily, dispose and replace as necessary	
Mud kitchen- metal/ ceramic crockery and utensils, pots, and pans.	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean daily	Providing equipment for each safer play group
Large tins, and crates for carrying	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean daily	Providing equipment for each safer play group
Daily mile	Yes	Risk assess space		
Wooden balancing beams and crates.	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean after sessions	
Resource	Yes/No	If yes what age range	Safety management	Comments
Tyres (big/small)	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean after sessions	Providing equipment for each safer play group
Big/small balls.	Yes	All ages	Reduce, rotate and clean after sessions	Providing equipment for each safer play group
Barrels	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean after sessions	
Leaves and sticks.	Yes	All ages	Check for cleanliness daily, dispose and replace as necessary	
Climbing equipment	Yes	Risk assessment	Clean regularly	
Mark making equipment- chalk, water, brushes etc	Yes	Risk assessment	Reduce, rotate and clean	Providing equipment for each safer play group
Other				
Fine motor skills- pegs, metal tongues, elastic bands, pom poms, posting games, etc	Yes	Risk assessment	Rotate and wash daily	Provide individual pots for each safer play group.
Baking/cookery	Yes	Preschool	Well supervised and children have their own bowl/utensils/ foodstuff.	
Jigsaws (all types)	Yes	Stage appropriate	Reduce, rotate and clean regularly	