



Site Name:

Client Name:



Endorsed by The British Design Council.

Created in partnership with - Inclusive Play, KIDS the disabled children's charity,
Occupational Therapist Amy Wagenfeld, PhD, OTR/L, SCEM, CAPS and Constance Hurley.

What is PiPA®?

The PiPA® Checklist uses a comprehensive five point system to help inform new play space design to ensure all children benefit from the provision. PiPA® can also be used to audit existing play spaces, identifying the gaps in provision or barriers to accessibility in the landscape.

Not only does PiPA® review the play opportunities provided within a play space but also looks at the availability of information about that space and access to on site and local facilities and amenities. These key areas help illustrate the considerations families of children with impairments must keep in mind before planning a trip to a play area. It is also a resource for parents with impairments.

PiPA® was created in partnership with Inclusive Play, KIDS the disabled children's charity, occupational therapist Constance Hurley and Amy Wagenfeld, PhD, OTR/L, SCEM, FAOTA, occupational therapist, researcher, educator, design consultant and author.

PiPA® was included in the UK Government's Accessible Britain Challenge and hailed as a best practice document for playground design by the British Design Council.

What are the PiPA® Accreditations?

There are 3 PiPA® statuses;

- Gold Sites – Our Gold Accredited sites have met the minimum requirements and achieved between 95% - 100% overall score.
- Silver Sites - Our Silver Accredited sites have met the minimum requirements and achieved between 85% - 94% overall score.
- Bronze Sites - Our Bronze Accredited sites have met the minimum requirements and achieved between 75% - 84% overall score.

Each of the 5 scored sections has a minimum pass requirement of 75%. This ensures well rounded inclusivity across all areas. Final scoring is shown in the Playground Evaluation section on Page 10.

PiPA® designated sites are added to our online interactive map so families can find great destination or community spaces that meet their needs. Full details of each site is listed along with photographs so families know what to expect before they travel. <https://www.pipaaccreditation.com/pipa-map>.

What do I need to do?

Simply complete the checklist and email this along with photos and/or CAD layouts/3D renders to info@pipaaccreditation.com. Our team will carry out an independent assessment and award either a Gold, Silver or Bronze Accreditations. Don't worry if your design doesn't initially meet our criteria; through our 'plan to Excel' section, we will help you explore inclusive design options suitable for your project and ways to earn a designation. All PiPA® Checklist submissions are subject to a consultation fee, confirmed on receipt of application.

Want to talk?

Feel free to get in touch to speak to one of our team; we are here to help you with equipment choices and inclusive design layouts. We love talking inclusion and can help you achieve it for your community. You can phone and talk to the team on +44 (0) 203 195 3873 or email us at info@pipaaccreditation.com.

BEFORE YOU START...

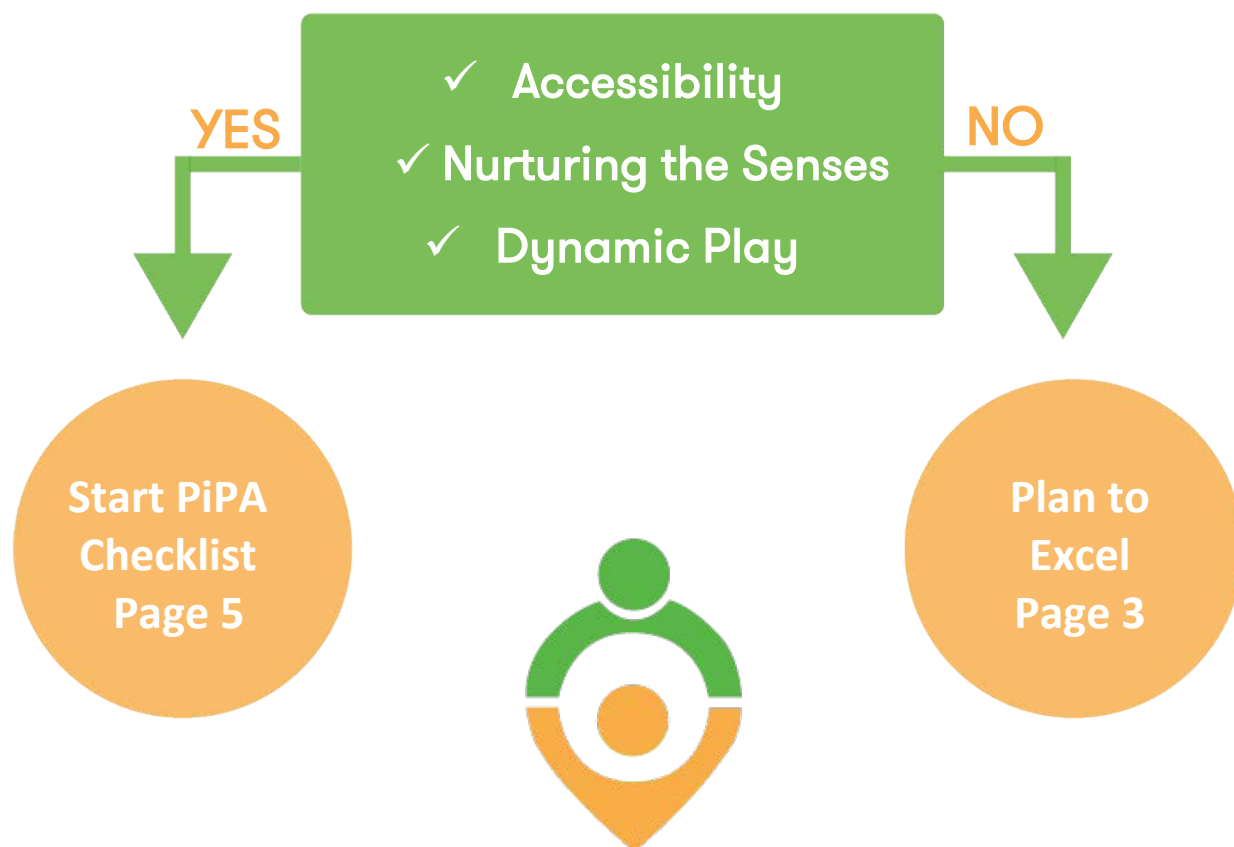
Minimum requirements

Our expert inclusion team have identified three core elements that are essential to any accessible and inclusive play space.

We are looking for a YES to all three of these questions before you move onto the PiPA Checklist Questionnaire.

- ✓ Accessibility - Is there a hard-standing path network throughout the play space and/or is the surfacing suitable for wheelchair users?
- ✓ Nurturing the Senses - Can at least 3 of the senses from our Six Senses of Inclusive Play Wheel be accessed from both a seated AND standing position?
- ✓ Dynamic Play - Is there opportunity for all children to get their whole bodies involved in dynamic play? (this can be achieved through sliding, climbing, spinning or swinging)

If you have answered NO to any of these questions, please refer to our Plan to Excel section on the next page before moving onto the complete PiPA Checklist.



PLAN TO EXCEL - Elevating inclusion in your Play Space

This section offers guidance and tips to elevate inclusion in your play area. Our Plan to Excel guidelines will help to ensure an increase of local play facilities, which are so valuable to families with impairments.

✓ Accessibility

Creating a site filled with uneven surfacing such as sand or bark will prevent many users from being part of the action and results in exclusion, as shown in picture 1.

Consider barriers to a space such as steps or steep kerbing. A hard standing path network into and around the area ensures people in wheelchairs or with mobility aids can gain access to the heart of the play area as well as to the equipment. Be mindful of older carers and family members who will also benefit from a flush and level path (picture 2.) **True inclusion incorporates the WHOLE family and provides a community space for all ages and abilities.**

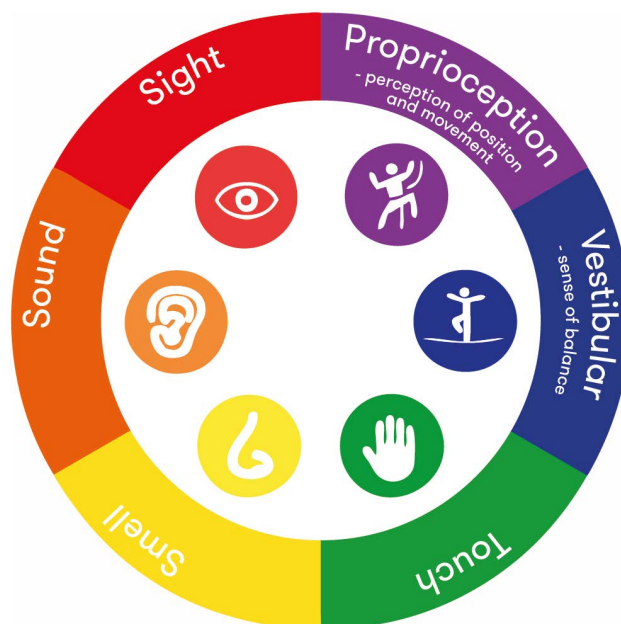


✓ Nurturing the Senses

A key point when designing an inclusive playground is to offer lots of choice of activity as “one size doesn’t fit all.”

Every child is different and their combination of impairments and abilities will vary ~ consider that many people have more than one impairment (physical, visual, hearing etc) so offering a wide range of engaging activities is best.

Our Six Senses Wheel helps you to easily identify the senses being engaged; we strongly advise a minimum of three senses from both a seated and standing position - but of course more is better! Nurturing a wide range of senses will ensure a more complete inclusive experience.



✓ Dynamic Play

Dynamic Play offers the opportunity to engage proprioception and promote the development of a healthy vestibular system. We have included both of these as two of the key senses in our Six Senses Wheel.

Provide opportunity to experience dynamic play at their own pace through sliding, swinging, climbing, rolling or spinning.



START PIPA CHECKLIST...

PLAN TO GO - Travelling to the Play Space

Routes into the Playground

		YES	NO
1	Are there accessible routes by foot?		
2	Are there accessible routes by wheelchair?		
3	Do walking routes to the play space have:		
a	Smooth surfaces?		
b	Wide paths (1.2m wide as minimum)?		
c	Gentle slopes (1:12m slope max)?		
d	Safe crossing points with dropped kerbs?		
4	Are the pathways free from kerbing?		
INFO	What is the composition of the path material?		
5	Is the access route into the playground free from steps or stairs?		

Transport Links

6	Are there parking spaces less than 250m away?		
7	Are there allocated accessible parking spaces?		
INFO	If yes, how many spaces?		
8	Are there local accessible public transport links?		
INFO	Where is the nearest bus stop? Where is the nearest train station?		

Plan to Go section is weighted at 5% of the total mark.

PLAN TO ACCESS - Access within the Play Space

Path Networks and Slopes

		YES	NO
9	Is there a hard-standing path network throughout the play space and/or is the surfacing suitable for wheelchair users? <i>(*this question forms part of our minimum requirement criteria. If you have answered 'no' here, please refer to Plan to Excel section on Page 3 before moving on.)</i>		
10	Do all play items have a hard standing path connecting directly to them?		
11	Are all pathways a minimum of 1.2m wide with passing places?		
12	Are all path slopes and ramps kept to a maximum of 1:12m?		
INFO	What is the slope of the ramp? What is the gradient of the steepest slope?		
13	Are access routes within the playground free from steps and stairs?		
14	Is there safety surfacing?		
15	Are there changes in elevation clearly identified with colour/textural variations?		

Safety Considerations

16	Is full 360 degree surveillance possible at all points of the play space?		
17	Is there fencing/barriers surrounding the space to prevent children from leaving the space?		
18	Are all plants safe?		
19	Are all plants nontoxic and without thorns?		

Playground Signage

20	Is Braille, pictorial images or symbols included with the text?		
21	Is there audio information about the park available on site?		
22	Is signage located at an easily accessible height for both children and wheelchair users? (we would suggest 1m from the ground)		
23	For large sites, is there a map showing users how to move around the space and where equipment is located?		

Plan to Access section is weighted at 20% of the total mark.

PLAN TO PLAY - Engaging the Six Senses

A. Sensory Play

		YES	NO
24	Can at least three of the senses from our Six Senses of Inclusive Play be fully accessed from both a seated and standing position? <i>(*this question forms part of our minimum requirement criteria. If you have answered 'no' here, please refer to Plan to Excel section on Page 3 before moving on.)</i>		
Please indicate which of the following applies and how it is provided?			
	Proprioception: Awareness of where the body is in space. Activities that include putting loads on the joints and muscles such as: pushing, pulling, jumping and climbing.		
	Equipment that engages proprioception:		
	Vestibular: Contributes to balance and equilibrium in response to a change in head position and/or having feet lifted off the ground. Activities that include rolling, climbing, swinging, spinning and lying on stomach/back while in motion.		
	Equipment that engages the vestibular:		
	Touch: Helps differentiate pressure, texture and traction and is vital to monitor temperature and pain. Activities that include a tactile experience such as sand, water and textures and engage both large and small motor movements.		
	Equipment that engages touch:		
	Smell: Contributes to our enjoyment of life and enhances our social interactions. Activities are limited but can be achieved by landscaping features; identifying plants by smell can form an important part of play.		
	Activities/items that engage Smell:		
	Sound: Aids cognitive development by enhancing ability to process information. Activities that include musical play, communication with others or simply making a noise by activating elements in the playground.		
	Equipment that engages sound:		
	Sight: Continually enriching the visual sense helps children arrive at the appropriate motor responses. Activities that include different textures and shapes, reflected light, colour contrasts and patterns.		
	Equipment that engages sight:		

PLAN TO PLAY - Engaging the Six Senses

Individual and Quiet Play

		YES	NO
25	Are there quiet areas to allow private spaces to play, hide, take retreat and for quiet play?		
INFO	Are these spaces:		
a	Throughout the play space?		
b	Close to entrance spaces?		
c	Along the interior perimeter of the play space?		
d	Along the exterior of the play space?		

Imaginative and Social Play

26	Are there opportunities for children to play with natural materials? <i>These can be planted areas and naturally landscaped spaces.</i>		
27	Is there open space with no equipment for children to play imaginative games together?		
28	Does the play space offer play opportunities for the whole family to enjoy together?		

Physical Play

29	Is there opportunity for all children, including those using mobility aids and with sensory challenges to experience play at multiple heights? <i>This could be achieved through landscaping works as well as equipment.</i>		
30	Is there opportunity for all children, including those using mobility aids and with sensory challenges to experience dynamic movement?		
31	Is there space for group games/sports activities that can be used equally by all?		
32	Are there fine motor, small scale play opportunities at a variety of heights for both individual and cooperative play?		
33	Is there opportunity for all children to get their whole bodies involved in play? <i>This can be through sliding, swinging, climbing, rolling and spinning opportunities.</i> <i>(*this question forms part of our minimum requirement criteria. If you have answered 'no' here, please refer to Plan to Excel section on Page 3 before moving on.)</i>		

Risk and Challenge

34	Is there opportunity for all children to experience risk? <i>Risk provides opportunities for all children to encounter or create uncertainty, unpredictability, and potential hazards as part of their play.</i>		
35	Is there opportunity for all children to experience challenge? <i>Challenge is something that motivates, interests, or engages - this might not be an activity that is considered typically 'risky'.</i>		

Plan to Play section is weighted at 50% of the total mark.

PLAN TO REST AND RECHARGE - Providing Downtime

Refreshments and Facilities

		YES	NO
36	Is there a cafe/restaurant located on site?		
INFO	If no, where can the nearest refreshment be found? <i>This could be a local supermarket or high street.</i>		
37	Is there a drinking fountain on site?		
38	Are there accessible toilets on site?		
39	Are there on site changing facilities for children?		
40	Are there on site changing facilities for adults?		
41	Is there a Changing Places® facility on site or nearby?		
INFO	If yes, where is the closest facility?		

Seating and Tables

42	Is there ample seating throughout the play space?		
43	Does some of the seating provided have arm and back rests?		
44	Can visitors using mobility aids, including wheelchairs, sit between other people without blocking a path or feeling like an afterthought?		
45	Can both children and adults using mobility devices, including wheelchairs, use the tables provided?		

Shade/Sun Balance

46	Are there shaded areas? <i>This can be provided by canopies, sail shades or trees.</i>		
47	Is equipment located in shaded areas?		
INFO	Please detail which items are located in shade:		

Plan to Rest and Recharge section is weighted at 20% of the total mark.

PLAN TO ENGAGE - Promoting your Inclusive Play Space

48	Is there a dedicated web page/website for the play space?		
INFO	If yes, is this web page accessible with audio access?		
INFO	If yes, is the web page easy to navigate?		
49	Can visitors provide feedback about the play space?		
50	Can visitors let others know about the play space?		
51	Via social media?		
52	Via the website?		
INFO	Please list below the URLs to all the websites/social media platforms (Twitter/Facebook/Instagram etc)		
INFO	Do you have any planned opening days for the playground?		
INFO	What are the opening hours of the playground?		

Plan to Engage section is weighted at 5% of the total mark.

Please use the space below to provide any additional information you may feel is relevant to your application:

PLAYGROUND EVALUATION - PiPA Accreditation

P I P A G O L D



- Gold Sites - Our Gold Accredited sites have met the minimum requirements and achieved between **95% - 100% overall score**.

P I P A S I L V E R



- Silver Sites - Our Silver Accredited sites have met the minimum requirements and achieved between **85% - 94% overall score**.

P I P A B R O N Z E



- Bronze Sites - Our Bronze Accredited sites have met the minimum requirements and achieved between **75% - 84% overall score**.

Award Scoring

Each of the 5 scored sections has a minimum pass requirement of 75%.

- Plan to Go section is weighted at 5% of the total mark.
- Plan to Access section is weighted at 20% of the total mark.
- Plan to Play section is weighted at 50% of the total mark.
- Plan to Rest and Recharge section is weighted at 20% of the total mark.
- Plan to Engage section is weighted at 5% of the total mark.

Playground Evaluation

	Score
PLAN TO GO - Travelling to the Playground	/ 11
PLAN TO ACCESS - Access within the Playground	/ 15
PLAN TO PLAY - Engaging the Six Senses	/ 12
PLAN TO REST AND RECHARGE - Providing Downtime	/ 12
PLAN TO ENGAGE - Promoting your Inclusive Playground	/ 5
Total	/ 55

The PiPA Accreditation awarded to your play space is:

Feedback

This section offers guidance and tips to elevate inclusion in your play area, providing feedback on any gaps in completed PiPA Checklist.



- ✓ **PLAN TO GO**
- ✓ **PLAN TO ACCESS**
- ✓ **PLAN TO PLAY**
- ✓ **PLAN TO REST**
- ✓ **PLAN TO ENGAGE**

“We were receiving an increasing number of enquiries regarding accessible equipment and so wanted to demonstrate a commitment to inclusivity. I found the PiPA Checklist invaluable in getting me to think about the issues people with disabilities of all sorts might face. It also has helped us to be aware of issues such as parking and distance from car parks which helps when deciding which play areas to focus our attentions on for inclusive play.”

**Nicole Batten-Evatt CMLI, Landscape Architect
Mid Sussex Council**

“The process for PiPA accreditation challenged us to look at inclusivity and accessibility in a broader way and ultimately enhanced the design process to produce a better play facility. One of the main benefits is that inclusivity is designed in from the start and becomes invisible on site, truly allowing everyone to play together.”

**Ross Dunn, Play Services Manager & Play Imagineer
North Lanarkshire Council**

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