

# Playpark Strategy

2023-2033

Young  
people's  
edition



# Contents

# How can playparks, laughing and having great fun help me learn?

Playparks can help you learn how to:

**1** Get your mind and body to get stronger

**3** Keeping trying when you can't do something 'yet'

**6** Feel better when you are playing outside

**2** Practice useful life skills like playing together and working out disagreements

**4** Make friends with everyone of all ages and abilities

**7** How to think of your own cool ideas

**5** Get to know people who live near you

# What is a Strategy and an Action Plan?

A **Strategy** is a plan on what we want playparks to look like in the future.

An **Action Plan** is how we are going to make the plan work.



Photo by GMB Fitness on Unsplash

Our Council bosses agreed  
to our Playpark strategy!  
Woo Hoo!




We want all young people to be able to:


- Laugh
- Out
- Loud in
- Highland




# Through our questionnaire, you told us you wanted playparks to have:




Space to move -  
run, make dens,  
wheel, play with  
balls etc.



Stuff for all ages and  
abilities to play with.



Stuff you can  
play on with  
your pals.



Stuff that gets  
fixed when it is  
broken.



More natural play  
- hills, trees, slopes,  
looking for animals,  
picking fruit  
etc.



More art and  
statues.

# Why are some of our playparks breaking and new stuff isn't being put in?

Sometimes they get too old (wear and tear).



Sometimes we don't have enough money.



Did you know some climbing frames cost about the same amount of money which your parents or carer may earn in a whole year?!

Sometimes things get broken.



What does this Strategy mean for you?





# It means adults in the Council want to:



Make sure everyone has a playpark to play in, which is close to home.



Make sure, there is stuff for everyone to play on – all ages and all abilities.



Give you chances to get healthier by playing outdoors.



Help young people learn useful life skills.



Look after our planet by reducing, reusing and recycling equipment.



Get you helping adults with designing your own playparks.

What will our Action Plan achieve?



We need to  
make sure  
everyone  
can play



# We need to make sure we are caring for our environment:

3 sizes  
of playparks  
so we can keep  
lots of local parks  
where you can  
get to easily

Increase  
Natural  
Play

Repair  
equipment  
when we have  
the money

Reuse  
equipment  
when we  
can

Only  
buy what  
we need but  
buy cooler  
stuff

Increase  
what we  
grow in  
playparks

Net Zero

A photograph of a playground featuring several tall, dark wooden pillars. Some of these pillars are decorated with horizontal bands of pink and yellow. The pillars are connected by ropes and metal rings, forming a climbing structure. The ground is covered in a green and blue safety mat. In the background, there are other playground structures, including a yellow and blue climbing frame and a basketball hoop. The sky is blue with some clouds.

We need to make  
sure we have  
enough money

# Three sizes of playparks

We are going to separate playparks into 3 sizes so you can play close to home AND also have occasional bigger parks (you may have to travel to them though).

## Big Parks



One in each region, depending on what money is available.

## Medium Parks



One in each town, large village and large suburb.

## Local Parks



Those will be smaller parks, where you can hopefully walk or wheel to.

A young boy with short brown hair, wearing a dark blue hoodie and light-colored shorts, is climbing a wooden play structure. The structure is made of large, weathered logs and black metal mesh. The ground is covered in brown wood chips. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the play area.

# How long will this take?

Building playparks will happen when communities and councils raise enough funds.

What can I do if my playpark is broken or needing repaired? →

You can talk to adults and ask them to contact The Highland Council Amenities Department.

# What happens when there is enough money to improve a playpark or a broken piece of equipment?



We will come to speak with local school children to see what they would like.



We will create some new designs.



We will come back to the school and ask children to vote on their favourite one.



After about 3 months, the new equipment should be in – hurray!



# Thank you

- ✓ For reading this
- ✓ Looking after our playparks
- ✓ Being kind to other people





The Highland  
Council  
Comhairle na  
Gàidhealtachd

[www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk)