

Harbury Village Hall

Bouncy Castle Risk Assessment

Activity: Use of inflatable play equipment (bouncy castle)

Location: Village Hall / Adjacent Grounds

1. Scope and Assumptions

- Applies to **hired** or **privately supplied** inflatable equipment used on village hall premises.
- Assumes equipment is operated in line with **HSE guidance, PIPA/ADIPS inspection schemes, and manufacturer instructions.**
- Applies to children's use only unless the equipment is specifically rated for adults.

2. Hazard Identification and Control Measures

A. Equipment Failure (collapse, deflation, blower failure)

Risks: Entrapment, suffocation, crush injuries.

Controls:

- Equipment must have a valid **PIPA tag** or **ADIPS certificate.**
- Equipment provider must have **public liability insurance** (minimum £5m).
- Blower unit positioned behind a barrier; cables protected and routed safely.
- Continuous supervision by a **competent adult** in accordance with the equipment provider's insurance policy (minimum 18 years).
- If used outside the hall - no use in high winds: **maximum 24 mph / Beaufort 5** (use an anemometer).
- Anchor points fully secured (minimum 6 stakes outdoors).

Residual Risk: Low–Medium

Responsible Person: Event organiser / equipment provider

B. Overcrowding or Unsafe Behaviour

Risks: Collision injuries, falls, trampling.

Controls:

- Enforce maximum occupancy as per manufacturer's guidance.
- Separate sessions for **different age groups.**
- No flips, somersaults, wrestling, or climbing on walls.
- Supervisors positioned at entrance and exit.

Residual Risk: Low

Responsible Person: Supervising adult(s)

C. Weather Conditions (outdoor use)

Risks: Wind uplift, slippery surfaces, electrical hazards.

Controls:

- Mandatory wind monitoring; stop use if gusts exceed safe limits.
- No operation in rain or if the surface becomes slippery.
- Blower and extension leads must be **IP-rated** and protected from water.

Residual Risk: Low–Medium

Responsible Person: Event organiser

D. Trip Hazards (cables, mats, stakes)

Risks: Trips, falls, minor injuries.

Controls:

- Cable covers used for all power leads.
- Safety mats placed at entry/exit points.
- Pegs/stakes clearly marked and roped off.

Residual Risk: Low

Responsible Person: Set-up team / equipment provider

E. Electrical Safety

Risks: Electric shock, fire.

Controls:

- Blower PAT-tested within last 12 months.
- RCD protection on all circuits.
- No daisy-chained extension leads.
- Cables kept away from water and high-traffic areas.

Residual Risk: Low

Responsible Person: Hirer / hall caretaker

F. Slips, Trips, and Falls on Entry/Exit

Risks: Minor injuries, sprains.

Controls:

- Safety mats in good condition and correctly positioned.
- Supervisors to manage orderly entry/exit.
- Remove shoes, jewellery, sharp objects before entry.

Residual Risk: Low

Responsible Person: Supervising adult(s)

G. Safeguarding and Child Protection (for commercial ventures)

Risks: Unsupervised children, inappropriate contact, lost children.

Controls:

- Minimum **1:10 supervision ratio** (you can tighten this if needed).
- Supervisors must remain present at all times.
- Clear collection arrangements for younger children.
- Follow hall's safeguarding policy.

Residual Risk: Low

Responsible Person: Event organiser

H. Fire or Emergency Evacuation

Risks: Panic, entrapment.

Controls:

- Blower positioned so it can be switched off quickly.
- Supervisors trained to evacuate the inflatable safely.
- Keep exits and fire routes clear.

Residual Risk: Low

Responsible Person: Event organiser / equipment provider

3. Emergency Procedures

- Stop use immediately if equipment deflates, shifts, or becomes unstable.
- Turn off blower at the mains if unsafe.
- Call emergency services if required.
- Record any incident in the **Village Hall Accident Book**.

Reviewed 8 April 2026