

School playground equipment after floods

During floods, play equipment, seating and eating areas may be inundated by contaminated flood waters. Residual mud may contain bacteria and other disease-causing agents. Health risks associated with mud from floods can include wound infections, dermatitis, conjunctivitis and ear, nose and throat infections. It is important that these facilities be thoroughly cleaned prior to use by students.

Playgrounds and sports fields

- Sports fields should be allowed to completely dry before use
- Branches and other debris should be removed before fields are open for use
- Mow grass to as short as possible to assist in quicker drying
- Do not allow students onto muddy areas without closed in shoes
- Anyone with cuts, scratches, sores or open wounds should not be allowed on wet or muddy playgrounds
- Anyone using sporting fields should thoroughly wash hands, especially prior to eating and drinking

Footpaths

- Residual mud should be cleaned from footpaths, stairs and handrails, pavers and other concrete areas including walls with a high-pressure cleaner

Lunch tables and play equipment

- All seating areas, lunch tables and rubbish bins should be thoroughly hosed to remove all mud or soil and allowed to dry before use, including the underside and surrounding grounds

Further Information:

See your doctor or health clinic

For health information call your local [Public Health Unit](#) on (07) 4433 6900

[Call 13 HEALTH \(13 43 25 84\)](#) for qualified health advice anytime

Or visit: <https://www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies/recovery-after-disaster/cleaning-up>