PITCHPOWER

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FOOTBALL ASSESSMENT REPORT

GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL

Derbyshire FA

Active Places Site ID

30007596

Report ID

19178

This report has been compiled for GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL and Derbyshire FA to provide information on the standard of the football pitches and outlines recommendations on how to improve the quality and maintenance of these pitches.

Inspection Window

1 NOV 2024 / 31 MAR 2025

Inspection Reason

INTEREST IN A FOOTBALL FOUNDATION GRANT

Report Completion Date

13 FEB 2025

This report looks solely at the Football pitches for GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL to see how support can be offered in improving the standard of Football pitches and level of maintenance across the area. Please note these recommendations are based on the information obtained and/or provided and are for guidance purposes only. Any works undertaken are the responsibility of the club/organisation.

Site report:

GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL

GROUNDS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL

Site ID: 30007596



Date inspection submitted	Inspection submitted by	Next available inspection window	Reviewed by
12/02/25	lpace@glossopdale.school	1 Apr 2025 / 1 Jun 2025	jmorris@thegma.org.uk

Map Key	Pitch Name	PQS Score
1	PITCH 1 - 9 A-SIDE	Poor - 41%
2	PITCH 2 - 9 A-SIDE	Poor - 30%

Overview

Please be mindful that the recommendations made in this report are based on the condition of the pitches at the time of the inspection.
With the area having received little maintenance since 2020, a programme of reinstatement work will be required in order to return the pitches to a safe and useable condition for the 25/26 season as outlined in the provided information. I have provided a rough schedule of recommended works in the maintenance recommendations provided however given the condition of the field I will contact Derbyshire FA and look to organise an on site visit with you in the near future. Remote assessment has its limitations and I think an on site visit would be beneficial to you.
Senior Regional Pitch Advisor contact.
jmorris@thegma.org.uk
07519103040

Maintenance

Attention required in these areas:

- Pest Management >
- Mowing >
- Scarification >
- Top Dressing (Renovation) >
- Overseeding (Out of season renovation) >
- Decompaction >
- Application of fertiliser >

Equipment

Attention required in these areas:

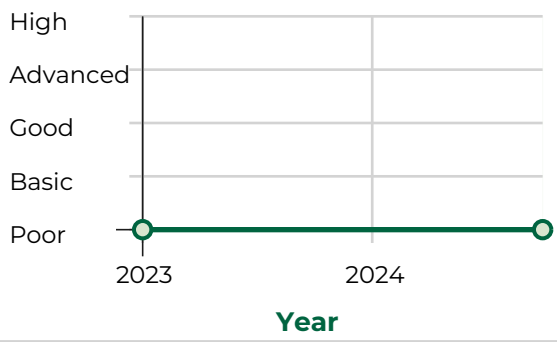
No equipment to show

Pitch 1 - 9 a-side Football - Junior Football 9v9

CURRENT PQS SCORE: Poor (Adjusted) - 41%

AREA				PQS GRADE
Grass height	50 ↑	50 ↑	50 —	2 ↑
Grass	18 —	81 ↑	68 ↑	1 ↑
Weed coverage	75 —	14 ↑	25 —	0 —
Surface debris	Standard ↑	Standard ↑	Below Standard —	2 ↑
Topsoil depth	200mm —	200mm —	200mm —	4 —
Thatch depth	40mm ↓	30mm ↓	40mm ↓	0 ↓
Root depth	165mm —	155mm —	130mm —	4 —
Drainage Following Rainfall	Slow drainage ↓			2 ↓
Line markings	Below standard —			0 —
Surface evenness	Standard —			2 —
Goalposts	Compliant —			1 —

Overall pitch PQS tracked over time



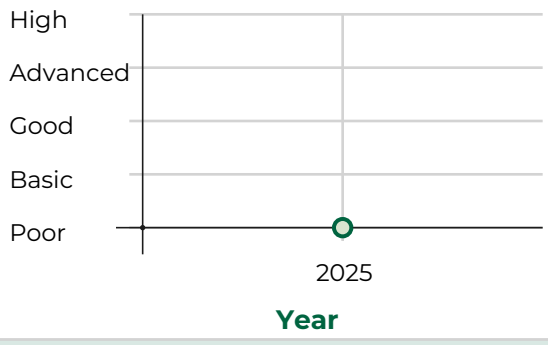
Pitch 2 - 9 a-side Football - Junior Football 9v9

CURRENT PQS SCORE: Poor - 30%

AREA				PQS GRADE
Grass height	55	55	60	2
Grass	40	60	82	0
Weed coverage	55	30	13	0
Surface debris	Below Standard	Below Standard	Standard	0
Topsoil depth	200mm	200mm	200mm	4
Thatch depth	30mm	30mm	25mm	0
Root depth	150mm	90mm	135mm	4
Drainage Following Rainfall	Slow drainage			2
Line markings	Below standard			0
Surface evenness	Below standard			0
Goalposts	Compliant			1

Grass cap: You received a score of Poor therefore your overall PQS has been capped at Poor

Overall pitch PQS tracked over time



MAINTENANCE

These recommendations are in priority order

PEST MANAGEMENT

Frequency:

As Required

Recommended for:

Whole Ground

Steps need to be taken to control the mole population on site and the damage that is being caused as a result. Not only are mole hills unsightly and severely disruptive to the playing surface but even more problematically the mole runs sub surface can sink and collapse leaving a dangerous, uneven playing surface. Please copy the following URL in to your web browser for further guidance on Moles. https://footballfoundation.hivelearning.com/card/528817b4-dd3d-49b3-bc02-9c235931e526

LEARN MORE ABOUT PEST MANAGEMENT >

Our recommendations

MOWING

Frequency:

As Required

Recommended for:

Whole Ground

When weather conditions allow the area should be gradually mown down on no less frequently than a weekly basis to around 20-25mm the aim should be to do this by early to mid April. This will reduce the height of the vegetation adequately for the required pitch renovation works to take place in order to return the area to use.

LEARN MORE ABOUT MOWING >

SCARIFICATION

Frequency:

As Required

Recommended for:

Whole Ground

Est Cost:

£600

The site has a very significant layer of organic matter, aswell as dense vegetation, moss and weeds that will need reducing via scarification before the area is suitable for use. The area will need scarifying in multiple directions with the collected arisings either needing removing from site or tipping on site if there is a suitable location/s where it can be left to rot down. The aim should be to carry this out in April when weather conditions are likely to support reinstatement of the pitch.

The budget figure quoted is a guideline contractor cost and per directional pass.

LEARN MORE ABOUT SCARIFICATION >

TOP DRESSING (RENOVATION)

Frequency:

As Required

Recommended for:

Whole Ground

Est Cost:

£2500

Once vegetation had been reduced in height and density through mowing and scarification it will become more apparent if any work is required to improve the surface levels of the pitches, given the widespread mole damage it's highly likely. Application of sand top dressing can help to reinstate surface levels and improve surface drainage and the quality of the topsoil over time. This can be done by bulk application of top dressing using specialised equipment as part of pitch renovations. Typically, the aim is to apply approximately 9-16kgs/m2 /year (This equates to between 60-100tonnnes) for a full size pitch eg (100x68m) The type of top dressing used is important to avoid creating issues, you can make sure any materials used are compatible with your soil type/drainage by having a Particle Soil Distribution analysis undertaken by a suitable dressings supplier. Always keep dressing dry prior to and during application and brush/drag matt in thoroughly when dry in several directions. The report budget provided is for 30 tonnes.

LEARN MORE ABOUT TOP DRESSING (RENOVATION) >

OVERSEEDING (OUT OF SEASON RENOVATION)

Frequency:

As Required

Recommended for:

Whole Ground

Est Cost:

£2200

Once the works above have been completed the next part of the process will be to reinstate desirable grass coverage suitable for playing winter sports. If adequate access to water is available or rainfall is plentiful, end of season over-seeding offers a reliable means of reinstating grass cover for the following season. Disc seed in 3 directions at a rate of 35 grams per square metre (approximately 10-12 x 20kg bags of Perennial Ryegrass seed for a full-size pitch) If particular areas of the pitch/s are worn season end such as through the middle box to box the amount of grass seed can be concentrated appropriately to target these areas if budgets are limited.

In season over-seeding can be a viable option on sites where access to water is limited. Seeding in early spring and early autumn when weather conditions are more helpful can help to mitigate the risks of poor germination often seen on sites without irrigation when renovations are left till end of season and the risk of drought is higher. If choosing this option, use of a disc seeder is crucial to make sure the grass seed is drilled into the pitch surface as this gives it some protection from play during germination. High traffic areas such as goal mouths are likely to

OVERSEEDING (OUT OF SEASON RENOVATION) CONTINUED

still require end of season repairs. Disc seed in 3 directions at a rate of 35 grams per square metre (approximately 10-12 x 20kg bags of Perennial Ryegrass seed for a full-size pitch) If budgets are limited and over-seeding spring and autumn this can be done at half rate 18 grams per square meter per pitch, with budgets constraints in mind you could also consider concentrating on the width of the box/es down the length of the pitch where most of the wear takes place.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OVERSEEDING (OUT OF SEASON RENOVATION) >

DECOMPACTION

Frequencies:

January: N/A
February: N/A
March: N/A
April: Once
May: N/A
June: N/A
July: N/A
August: N/A
September: N/A
October: Once
November: N/A
December: N/A

Recommended for:

Whole Ground

Est Cost:

£700

Decompaction operations are essential to allow air, water and nutrients to pass into and through the soil profile increasing drainage and root depth/density and improving the breakdown of organic matter (Thatch). Deep spiking should be carried out at least once annually, but ideally twice, spring and autumn using 18-24mm tines at 100mm spacings to maximum achievable depth. If funds permit conduct further linear aeration and decompaction operations during the autumn/winter month's if ground conditions allow i.e. not too wet. Initially on this site deep spiking should take place as part of the works to bring the pitches in to use, typically immediately after seeding.

LEARN MORE ABOUT DECOMPACTION >

APPLICATION OF FERTILISER

Frequencies:

January: N/A
February: N/A
March: N/A
April: Once
May: N/A
June: N/A
July: N/A
August: As Required
September: N/A
October: Once
November: N/A
December: N/A

Recommended for:

Whole Ground

Est Cost:

£1000

Experience has shown that where funds are limited and best value the principal concern application of a controlled or slow-release granular fertiliser provides the best outcomes on pitches used for grassroots football. As a rough guide these types of fertilisers provide a slow “drip” feed of nutrients avoiding excessive grass growth that can be difficult to keep on top of and susceptible to disease. This release of nutrients can last for up to 4-5 months in certain products but more typically 3-4. Granular fertiliser has increased in cost in recent years so its really important to make sure that what you are applying to the area is appropriate and nothing is being wasted. A nutrient soil analysis that can usually be provided by your chosen supplier can help to make sure you’re using what’s most suitable for your site. Typically, whatever the preferred supplier a suitable granular fertiliser can be selected for spring/summer and autumn/winter. Approx. 12 x 20kg bags per full size pitch. Two applications per year would be considered typical, once in spring and once in autumn but initially on this site an application a couple of weeks after seeding will be required to support establishment.

LEARN MORE ABOUT APPLICATION OF FERTILISER >

ESTIMATED BUDGET TO CARRY OUT RECOMMENDATIONS £7000

Please note, the costs provided above are indicative and may vary dependent on quantities and frequency. This estimated budget should be used to help plan and prioritise work, but is not linked to the amount of grant funding you may receive. Following the recommended works should help you achieve the GOOD pitch standard, or if already at that level, sustain it.

TRAINING

As well as undertaking the maintenance activities as described above, we would also recommend attending the following training courses to further develop your skills and understanding of grass pitch maintenance.

Click here for information on training courses.

VISIT TRAINING COURSES >

Recommended Training

Organisation Training

Online Modules Level 1 - Football

Read More >

Required Completions: 2

Online Modules Level 2

Read More >

Required Completions: 2

Want to apply for funding?

FOOTBALL FOUNDATION FUNDING APPLICATION PORTAL

You could be eligible for a grant to help you carry out the recommendations in this report. Click 'Apply here' and you could be on your way to securing a grant and being a part of our mission to transform this country's grassroots game.

Report ID: **19178**

To apply for funding visit

APPLY.FOOTBALLFOUNDATION.ORG.UK

Training Courses

GROUNDS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Further information on any training courses you're recommended to complete can be found on the Grounds Management Association website.

VISIT THE GMA >

The Groundskeeping Community

Join the Football Foundation Groundskeeping Community to connect with groundskeepers across different levels of the game. You'll be able to ask questions and share best practice.

VISIT THE GROUNDSKEEPING COMMUNITY >

Find out more about the Football Foundation's plan to transform the country's grass pitches

Visit our website, which has lots of information about other resources and funding opportunities we're offering organisations involved in the grassroots game.

FOOTBALLFOUNDATION.ORG.UK >

ECB RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE RFU GROUNDS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION