

EMBARGOED UNTIL
9am Monday 16 January 2023

Is yours the saddest playground of them all?



Is your local play area in need of some love? London Play is on the hunt for London's saddest playground – so we can help you turn it around in 2023.

London Play, the charity for children's play, wants to find London's saddest playground. We know there are some amazing playgrounds in the capital! But there are also too many that fall short for our children. We want to put the spotlight on them in the hope of making things better.

Playgrounds can be sad for any number of reasons. Perhaps yours has pitiful play equipment, or appalling access. Or is it rubbish-strewn, dangerous, or just plain neglected? Whatever the reason, we want to hear from you. Please send us pics of your sad play area – in your local park or green space, or housing estate.

You can share them on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram using the hashtag [#LondonsSaddestPlayground](#) – or simply send to us at info@londonplay.org.uk by **5pm, Monday 06 February**. State the location of the playground and make sure you include a way of contacting you.

We will put all entries to the public vote. The winner, to be revealed on Valentine's Day, Tuesday 14 February will get some BIG love. London's saddest playground will become the poster child for our campaign to improve local play facilities in London; and the team at London Play will work alongside the winners with aim of making it [#LondonsGladdestPlayground](#) in 2023. So, what are you waiting for? A ray of hope on [#bluemonday](#) so get clicking and sharing!

We would also like to hear about poor play services or policies in your area. For example, after school clubs or holiday play schemes which are threatened with closure or reductions in the services they provide. Or too many signs prohibiting play on your housing estate. Email us at info@londonplay.org.uk with details and we will try to help!

Notes to the editor

1. London Play promotes children's right to play, campaigns for more and improved out-of-school play services for children and young people across London, and supports play work in the capital.
2. London Play is grateful to [Trust for London](#) for supporting our [Communities United for Play](#) initiative. This sees us working with local campaigners to improve play in their areas and developing resources to help future campaign groups effectively challenge threats to local play provision. Our [#LondonsSaddestPlayground](#) campaign is part of this work.
3. Thanks to all our other funders which as well as Trust for London include Garfield Weston, the Mayor of London, The National Lottery Community Fund and The Royal Parks.
4. Ways to support London Play? [Donate](#). Purchase our unique Play 52 cards. Support us while you shop through [Give as you Live](#) or Amazon Smiles.
5. For media enquiries and high-resolution pictures please contact Fiona Sutherland via info@londonplay.org.uk.

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