



Bouncy castles and other play inflatables: Safety Advice

Serious incidents have occurred where inflatables have collapsed or blown away in windy conditions.

Simple precautions can help you avoid serious incidents, whether you supply or buy bouncy castles and inflatables, are hiring one for an event, or operate them.

Health and safety law applies to the supply, hire and use of inflatables for commercial purposes. It does not apply to private, domestic buyers and users.

The Health and Safety Executive have produced guidance that applies to inflatables devices used both outside and inside.

If you are intending to have a bouncy castle or a play inflatable at your event you need to have regard to the guidance which can be found using the following link:-

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/entertainment/fairgrounds/inflatables.htm>

The guidance details what you should do before you hire or buy a device and how it should be set up and used at the event. It is important to note that the guidance states:-

'When the inflatable is being operated outside, use an anemometer to measure the wind speed at regular intervals. If one of these is not available, the inflatable should not be operated outside.'

*'Do **not** use smartphone weather applications to measure wind speed as they do not take localised wind conditions into account'*

You need to ensure that you make suitable arrangements for the safe use of any bouncy castle or other play inflatable at your event.