Seasonal Safety: Playground Heat, Winter Ice, and Outdoor Hazards Fatality File

Child Injured After Slipping on Hidden Ice

A childcare centre allowed outdoor play after a light snowfall. Staff visually scanned the playground but did not identify ice beneath packed snow near a drainage area. A child slipped, fell backward, and struck their head, requiring medical evaluation.

The investigation found that a full ground-level inspection had not been completed. The centre revised its procedures to require walking the play area before winter play and blocking access to high-risk zones.

The incident highlighted how hidden seasonal hazards can lead to serious injury when overlooked.

Source: https://people.com