
Risk Assessment: Bouncy Castles – Weather Conditions (Heat, Rain, Wind, etc.)

Business Name: Bristol Bouncy Castle Hire
Assessment Date: 01/06/2025
Contact Email: support@bristolbouncycastlehire.co.uk
Review Date: 01/06/2026



1. HAZARD: High Temperatures / Heatwave

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed	Risks	Controls
Hot surfaces (castle PVC material)	Children, operators	Burns or discomfort from touching hot surfaces	Advise children to wear long sleeves and full-length clothing to prevent skin contact with hot surfaces
Dehydration & heat exhaustion	Children, staff	Dizziness, fatigue, nausea	Provide water stations; encourage regular hydration and shaded rest breaks
Overheating inside enclosed inflatables	Children	Trapped heat, increased risk of fainting	Use only open or well-ventilated inflatables during high temperatures

2. HAZARD: Strong Sunlight / UV Exposure

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed	Risks	Controls
UV radiation / sunburn	Children, staff	Skin damage, sunburn	Encourage use of sun cream, hats, and long clothing; provide shaded areas
Glare / reduced visibility	Supervisors, children	Reduced supervision visibility	Staff to wear hats/sunglasses; ensure clear visibility of inflatable zones

3. HAZARD: Rain / Wet Conditions

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed	Risks	Controls
Slippery surfaces	Children, staff	Falls inside or around inflatable	Cease use during rain; dry all surfaces thoroughly before re-use
Water pooling inside inflatable	Children	Slip, trip, and drowning risk	Inspect inflatables regularly; drain or mop up water before resuming use
Electrical components exposed	Staff, public	Shock risk	Use waterproof covers; unplug and safely store electrical components during rain

4. HAZARD: Wind / Gusts

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed	Risks	Controls
Uplifting of inflatable	Everyone	Serious injury from inflatables becoming airborne	Use ground stakes/weights as per manufacturer guidelines (minimum 6 anchoring points); inspect before and during use
Unstable anchoring	Everyone	Collapse or shifting	Cancel use if winds exceed 24 mph (38 km/h); use anemometer to measure wind speed on-site

5. HAZARD: Thunderstorms / Lightning

Hazard	Who Might Be Harmed	Risks	Controls
Lightning strike	Everyone	Severe injury or fatality	Immediately cease all inflatable use and evacuate to solid shelter
Sudden wind/hail	Everyone	Unexpected injury, equipment damage	Cancel or postpone activity if storm is forecast; monitor local weather apps

Monitoring & Emergency Procedures

- **Weather Monitoring:** Check forecasts before setup and monitor throughout the day. Use live weather apps and on-site anemometers.
- **Clothing Guidance:** Children should wear **lightweight, full-length clothing (long sleeves and trousers/leggings)** to protect skin from heat-related contact burns.
- **Event Staff:** Must be trained to identify signs of heat exhaustion, manage wind safety thresholds, and respond to emergencies.
- **Emergency Action:** Cease use immediately during dangerous weather. Deflate units safely and evacuate participants as needed.
- **First Aid:** Keep a fully stocked first aid kit and a qualified first aider on site at all times.