

Construction Sites Pose Serious Risks for Children During Summer Holidays

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As the summer holidays unfold, parents across Suffolk are being urged to steer their children clear of construction sites, where hidden dangers lurk amidst the bustle of building activity. David Wilson Homes, a prominent homebuilder in the region, has launched a safety campaign to remind families that playgrounds, parks, and leisure centres are far safer options for children's playtime.

In a recent interview, Tom Wright, Managing Director at David Wilson Homes Eastern Counties, emphasised the importance of vigilance. "We wholeheartedly encourage children

to be active and explore their surroundings, but construction sites are no place for play,” he said. “The risks are real, and we urge families to choose public spaces designed for recreation instead.”

The campaign aligns with findings from Natural England’s Children’s People and Nature Survey, which highlights that 91% of children and young people feel “very happy” when spending time in nature. While this underscores the value of outdoor activity, David Wilson Homes stresses that construction sites are not safe substitutes for natural spaces. Heavy machinery, unstable surfaces, and ongoing works create a hazardous environment that can lead to serious accidents.

The homebuilder points out that its developments often include public open spaces, such as parks and green areas, specifically designed for community use. These areas offer a safe alternative for children to channel their curiosity and energy. Wright added, “We’ve seen how much joy children get from exploring, but our sites are active workplaces with risks that aren’t always obvious. We want families to enjoy the summer safely.”

With the current Labour government pushing for increased housing development, the proliferation of construction sites across the UK has raised concerns about public safety, particularly for curious youngsters. David Wilson Homes’ campaign serves as a timely reminder that while new homes are essential, the safety of communities, especially children, must come first. Parents are encouraged to talk to their children about the dangers of trespassing on building sites and to plan summer activities in designated recreational spaces.

By choosing parks and playgrounds over hazardous construction zones, families can ensure a summer filled with fun, not danger. Let’s keep our children safe and make the most of the holidays in spaces designed for play.