

# QC gov't sets parks as 'safe zones' for children; commercial areas up for assessment

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PUBLIC PARKS and similar open spaces inside private residential subdivisions have been marked as “child friendly safe zones” by the **Quezon City government** where kids at least five years old can go for non-contact leisure activities.

Included in the list are the Quezon Memorial Circle, Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife, and 17 other private and public parks managed by the **Quezon City Parks Development and Administration Department**, based on a memorandum signed by **Maria Josefina “Joy” G. Belmonte** over the weekend.

The national task force managing the coronavirus response on Friday approved the policy allowing children at least five years old in certain outdoor venues in localities under the relaxed community quarantines.

In line with this, the Quezon City government on Saturday issued local guidelines for open areas where minors will be given access.

Commercial establishments such as shopping malls with outdoor areas, sports venues, and tourist sites must apply for accreditation to get a child safe zone tag.

“After months of being confined inside their houses, we saw the need to give minors a chance to go out and get some fresh air in outdoor areas that are deemed safe,” Ms. Belmonte said in a statement on Sunday.

Under the local government rules, a minor must be accompanied by a fully-vaccinated guardian.

“The adult guardian should be able to present the vaccination card and ID at any time upon request,” Ms. Belmonte said.