

## Hadleigh Park Play Area Project

The Council are excited to present the final design for the refurbishment of the existing toddler play area and a new junior play area at Hadleigh Park. Our chosen partner Proludic, have designed the play areas to work in harmony with the surrounding green space and open field, using organic shapes to soften the appearance. A combination of wet pour playing surfaces and grass mounds of various heights add to the interest and visual appeal of the play areas which, thanks to the pathway linking the toddler and junior areas, will be accessible and practical, all year round.



**Toddler Area – “Fun, safe and inviting for all”.** The enclosed toddler area is a safe, all-weather play space for younger children and families. Nine brand new pieces of equipment are included in the area mounted on a wet pour surface in natural colours which allows easy access for wheelchairs and pushchairs. The focal point of the area is a large multi-play unit which provides a variety of activities in a compact space for toddlers and early juniors. To compliment this unit there is also a natural village playhouse which provides great play value for small toddlers and includes wheelchair accessible elements. Overall the design includes lots of opportunities for low level activity, ideal for parents with younger children.





**Junior & Teen Area – “Daring & dynamic adventure”.** The junior and teen area is unfenced but separated from the road by the adjacent copse. Its main feature is a specifically designed multi-user playframe and it also has traditional favourites such as a double width slide which enables children to slide down individually, side by side or with a carer. The area contains additional dynamic pieces that encourage movement including a rope swing, hip hop, sky rail and double perch, all of which provide excellent play value for all children playing as individuals, or in family or friendship groups.



**Nature Area – “A landscaped, informal play space”.** The design includes a nature area as an alternative play space to the fully surfaced areas. Recycled plastic sleepers will be mounted on grass bunds to create a multi-use seating area and give the effect of an enclosed area without formal physical segregation. This area offers a quieter space where children, who can become anxious if they spend too much time in busy and noisy environments, can take a break away from the hustle and bustle of the surfaced play areas. This area should also be a great resource for carers to sit and rest whilst they are supervising their children’s play.



**Balance Trail – “A fun trail linking the areas”** An alternative path is provided between the toddler and junior areas using metal beams, mushroom stepping heads, curvy walkways and up and down pedestal steps, providing a great resource for developing balancing skills.

The giant sun dial in the natural area provides an interactive feature which can also be used as a base for games utilising the green space such as hide and seek.

The Children of St Michael’s school have already been presented with the design and have chosen four animals which feature in a game which uses an educational play panel to challenge users to find the animals.

**Picnic Areas – “Space to relax and enjoy”** hard surfaced areas have been included in the design to create plenty of space for adults to watch their children and for groups to enjoy time together using the picnic benches positioned to take maximum advantage of the facilities and their surroundings.

We know the children of St Michael’s are excited by our plans and are proud to present the area as the first element of our East Side Project which will provide exceptional new facilities for residents of all ages.