

IN PERFECT HARMONY WITH NATURE



ANTON LAKES, ANDOVER

Client:	Test Valley Borough Council
Address:	Anton Lakes, Andover, SP10 3SY
Budget:	£110,000
Age Range:	Junior, Toddler
Ranges:	Origin', Bespoke, Traditional
Surfacing:	Rubber mulch, Grassmat

Project Story: Proludic has enjoyed a longstanding and fruitful working relationship with Test Valley Borough Council. Over many years and through the delivery of dozens of projects, Proludic has gained a deep understanding of the Council's specific needs, preferences, and expectations. This collaborative experience has allowed the Council to appreciate the high quality of Proludic's installations and the durability of the equipment. Anton Lakes is a picturesque location situated within the Anton Lakes Nature Reserve, just a few meters from one of its several freshwater lakes. This area is a favourite spot for dog walkers, runners, and nature enthusiasts.

The previous playground equipment at Anton Lakes had not performed well due to the area's wet seasonal ground conditions. Timber items, which had been installed directly into the ground, had deteriorated over time and were beginning to pose a significant health and safety risk to the users.

“ It's such a fantastic natural play space, in keeping with its green surroundings. The bespoke Grebe unit gives the play area such a unique look and feel. ”

Tim Bird
Area Manager
Proludic Ltd



Specific challenges of the project included:

The primary challenge Proludic faced was addressing the wet ground conditions, which not only made the site inaccessible for several months each year but also compromised the durability of the play equipment. To overcome this, Proludic proposed a design that featured a raised rubber mulch surface laid over an MOT stone base. This design created a barrier between the users and the soggy ground, improving accessibility and longevity. Additionally, Proludic suggested using Robinia wood elements mounted on steel shoes to further enhance durability and prevent the wood from direct contact with the damp soil.



Proludic's design drew inspiration from the local flora and fauna, incorporating a custom-designed Grebe unit inspired by the birdlife native to the area. To meet the client's request for a 'wow factor', we included a substantial [J4947](#) Origin' multi-play unit capable of accommodating up to 17 users simultaneously. The site offers a range of balancing and dynamic play items catering to users of all ages, along with diverse swing variations designed for individuals of all abilities.

Proludic engaged the community by assessing public opinion through posters and an online survey, providing residents with the opportunity to comment on the final design and share their thoughts and feedback. Given the site's tendency to be very wet, Proludic strategically planned the delivery schedule to align with warmer and more manageable weather conditions. The project was completed on time and within budget, and it has been very well received by the local public.

