

MIXED MATERIALS PALETTE USED TO STUNNING EFFECT



BIDBURY MEAD PLAY AREA, HAVANT

Client:	Havant Borough Council
Address:	Bidbury Lane, Bedhampton, PO9 3JG
Budget:	£110,000
Age Range:	Toddler, Junior, Teenagers
Ranges:	Origin', Dynamic, Traditional, Educational
Surfacing:	Wetpour, Rubber Mulch, Grass Matting

Project Story: Responding to Havant Borough Council's call in the tender document for natural aesthetics and robust materials capable of withstanding potential antisocial behaviour, Proludic's project at Bidbury Mead aimed to revitalise the existing playground with a choice mix of materials, ensuring longevity and inclusivity in this green and secluded setting.

Bidbury Mead, a hub for diverse activities such as cricket, walking and football, demanded a playground that could accommodate a high volume of weekend users, engaging children of all ages and abilities in various playful activities. The old play area, marred by maintenance issues and deteriorating structures, required a low-maintenance design to supersede it utilising safe, sustainable play solutions.

“ The now completed project at Bidbury Mead stands as a testament to the successful integration of mixed materials, thoughtful design, and innovative solutions, creating a revitalised and inclusive playground that meets the diverse needs of the community while respecting the natural beauty of the surrounding environment. ”

Tim Bird
Area Manager
Proludic



Complicating matters, the playground was situated above a running spring, prompting a need for solutions to protect the surfacing and equipment from drainage issues and accelerated degradation. To address these challenges, Proludic elevated the play equipment by laying a mulch surface on MOT stone above the existing ground level. This not only prevented the surfacing and equipment from being submerged in water during wetter months but also facilitated access for younger children and visitors with special needs on a dry and stable surface year-round.



For older children, Proludic strategically placed more challenging equipment on grass-matting, ensuring a dynamic and age-appropriate play environment. The approach included the use of an inclusive selection from our Kanope range, featuring naturalistic painted galvanised steel. The addition of a Robinia well-inspired roundabout paid homage to the natural spring beneath the park. Junior climbing equipment, crafted from durable Robinia hardwood and raised on steel shoes, ensured resilience against decay. The **J3949** multiplay unit, designed to encourage lateral movement, featured slides of varying heights, fostering cooperative play among users of different ages. Acknowledging the diverse user base, we incorporated items popular with teen girls, such as horizontal bars and the crowd-pleasing Rodeoboard (**J3501**) spinning rocker.

The installation process faced challenges due to wet ground conditions during this phase of the project. However, efficient planning, including the use of trackways for deliveries, and meticulous post-completion reinstatement ensured the site was left in impeccable condition.

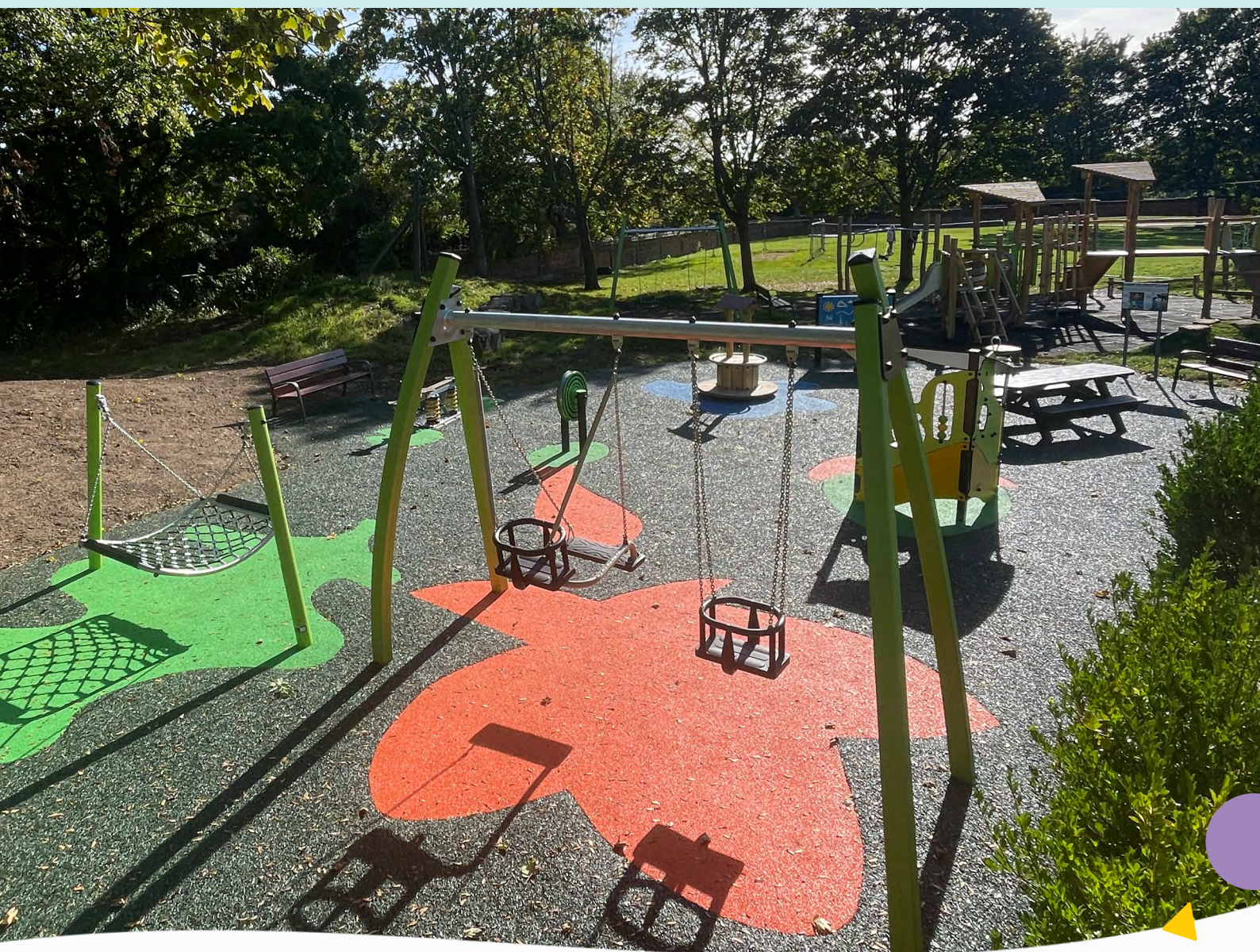


Bidbury Mead Play Area



Want a closer look at the new playground at **Bidbury Mead**?

Watch our fly-through of the brand new play space!



Contact Us On: www.proludic.co.uk - info@proludic.co.uk - 0115 9823 980

