

A NEW INCLUSIVE PLAY AREA AND RIVER-INSPIRED PLAY AT CANONBIE



RIVER-INSPIRED PLAY AREA, CANONBIE

Client: Dumfries and Galloway Council, in partnership with the Canonbie Leisure and Recreation Association (CLARA)

Address: Bowholm, Canonbie DG14 0UX

Budget: £120,000

Age Range: Toddlers, Juniors

Ranges: Diabolo

Surfacing: Wetpour

Project Story: Dumfries and Galloway Council, in partnership with the Canonbie Leisure and Recreation Association (CLARA), has transformed the local play provision in Canonbie through an exciting redevelopment project. Funding for the project was £85k from Scottish Government Play Park Renewal Fund with CLARA raising the remainder from local Windfarm and the Hollywood Trust.

The previous play area was outdated and lacked accessibility. Driven by a shared vision, the project focused on creating an inclusive, engaging space for children of all ages and abilities. The brief called for a fenced, accessible wet pour area with inclusive equipment, complemented by a more physically challenging open space for older children. Improved access was also a priority, with a new pathway created from the park's main entrance.



Inspired by the River Esk's scenic backdrop, Proludic used the brief and developed a design with a flowing, riverside theme. Themed equipment and surfacing were included to encourage imaginative play, with standout features such as a fish springer, inclusive boat springer, mini beast panel, and wet pour surfacing featuring river motifs. The inclusion of an adventure bridge was a further nod to the park's location at the foot of the impressive Canonbie Bridge.



A sensory zone was also included, offering a multi-sensory experience through colours, textures, a musical bongo tree, and interactive panels. Inside the fenced zone, inclusive elements such as the Proludic Roundabout, Trampoline, and low-level panels encourage accessible play. The Diabolo Multiplay unit provides the opportunity for progression and challenge across a variety of age groups.

Beyond the fence, the ACTI'Ninja Trail, Hip Hop springer, and 27m long cableway, offer active play and excitement for older children.

The installation was completed on time, with Proludic providing weekly updates to keep the community engaged. The park officially opened in August 2024, with CLARA, the Council, funders, and Proludic present - celebrating a new era of inclusive, community-driven play in Canonbie.

“ Proludic worked with Dumfries and Galloway Council and Canonbie CLARA Committee to deliver an Inclusive Play Park. They assisted with choice of equipment to ensure that this provided inclusive play opportunities but also provided some challenging equipment for older children. D&G Council were kept up to date on progress via the weekly on-site video which allowed us to share this with the local community so the everyone could see progress being made. The project was delivered within the agreed timescales and Proludic attended the opening ceremony for the park and gave gift packs to the local children which were very gratefully received. ”

Nicola Simpson
Community Assets Manager
Dumfries and Galloway Council



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