

## EDUCATIONAL PLAY AT ITS BEST AT RAF SHAWBURY



### RAF SHAWBURY, SHREWSBURY

|                   |                                               |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Client:</b>    | RAFA Kidz Nursery                             |
| <b>Address:</b>   | RAF Shawbury, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 4DZ |
| <b>Budget:</b>    | £50,000                                       |
| <b>Age Range:</b> | Toddlers, Juniors                             |
| <b>Ranges:</b>    | Baby Diabolo, Educational & Sensory           |
| <b>Surfacing:</b> | Wetpour                                       |

**Project Story:** RAF Shawbury has always placed a strong emphasis on providing quality, age-appropriate play areas across the base to support the families of the personnel working there. The nursery facility, however, lacked the vibrancy and educational support needed for the children in their early years' education phase of development.

Proludic was therefore delighted to once again be engaged to create a vibrant, stimulating play space that would meet the educational and developmental needs of the nursery children, enhancing their everyday experience and offering fun along the way. Proludic worked closely with the RAF Shawbury team to deliver a custom-designed play area that not only brought more colour and excitement to the space but also addressed key areas of social, physical, intellectual, and creative development.



Understanding the importance of why play is fundamental to a child's development is key in our design for the nursery setting. Play forms the building blocks for children's learning. We therefore ensured this was forefront in our design for the new play area at RAF Shawburys RAFAKidz nursery. Children have a range of supportive play activities and experiences to ensure their development is supported in a fun and educational way



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The new play area is directly accessible from the nursery, allowing children to move seamlessly between their classroom and the outdoor space as part of their daily curriculum. This facilitates free play opportunities and ensures that the outdoor environment becomes a natural extension of the children's learning experience as learning can take place in equal measure both indoors and outdoors.



Solutions provided offered a stimulating and vibrant play space zoned into different areas, each designed to cater to specific educational needs. These zones support a range of activities that promote social interaction, physical challenges, intellectual engagement, and creative play. The play area was thoughtfully designed to be inclusive, engaging, and age-appropriate, ensuring that each child can benefit from the various play opportunities on offer.

#### Key Features:

- **Learning Zones:** A storytelling area with a carved wooden chair and mushroom seats fosters imagination and communication.
- **Physical Challenges:** The Baby Diabolo (**J38709**) unit accommodates up to 12 toddlers with 21 play functions, encouraging movement and tactile stimulation.
- **Creative Play:** Arches, bridges, and animal structures spark creativity and exploration.
- **Vibrant Surfacing:** Bright surfacing enhances the environment, helping define play zones. A nearby road allows for ride-on cars.

Proludic selected equipment that supports the developmental needs of nursery-aged children, with a focus on safety, durability, and educational value. Music-generating equipment like bongo drums, xylophones, and sensory flowers (**J3418**) were also incorporated. Funded through the RAF station grant process, the project delivered a high-quality play space that meets the nursery's needs. Feedback from children, staff, and parents has been overwhelmingly positive.

