

# ROTHBURY PARK

## DESIGN PROPOSAL

The design aims to improve the accessibility of the park and extend the variety of activities that can take place among children, accompanying adults and older people. This is achieved by creating a series of pocket spaces that offer different activities and types of play, linked by direct and more adventurous routes. By providing a solid path between the two entrance points of Rothbury Road and Orchard Way, the park becomes a green corridor between the two roads that connects wildlife and people with their surroundings.



### NATURAL PLAY

New informal play elements have been included throughout the park. These features focus on developing children's movement and balance while allowing them to experiment and play creatively in groups or individually.

Use of materials in their natural form, including tree stumps and logs, for climbing structures and trim trails will enable children and young adults to explore and reconnect with nature.



### GATHERING SPACES

The pocket areas are designed to encourage social interaction between different age groups by overlapping and connecting the different spaces. Complemented by an increased number of benches and tables, the park's central recreation ground will provide a flexible area which can be used for sports, events and pop-up activities. The creation of the pocket spaces allows other activities to continue to take place in the surrounding areas.



### CONNECTING ACTIVITIES

The variety of available routes offers an engaging exploration of the park. The main resin bound gravel path provides a stable route for wheelchair users, buggies and maintenance vehicles, while the cut lawn path reinforced with grass grid gives a more natural and soft connection between the spaces.

For the younger generation there is an opportunity to incorporate playfulness in the journey by taking the shortcuts via stepping logs and balancing beams. The trimtrail paths allows a 'play on the way' experience and encourages parents to walk through the park on the way home or to other destinations.



### WILDLIFE ENRICHMENT

Between the pocket areas lush meadow vegetation and hedgerows support the foraging and habitat provision for wildlife. The proposal includes unmaintained buffer areas with shrub cover between the neighbouring houses and the park to create a natural boundary, reduce the noise impact, and lower the general maintenance requirements. The meadow planting allows people to observe wildlife and gives opportunity for schools and other groups to organize educational events and workshops.