

creating magic

GREENSPACES | PARKS | RESERVES

playground
creations
creating play for everyday!





creating magic

We create playgrounds to inspire and ignite the magic for play.

We are passionate about design excellence, outstanding quality and exceptional play value.

Your project. Our passion.

Let's play!

playgroundcreations.co.nz

innovative design

Yes we could create a playground design and replicate it across numerous parks, but we don't.

Why? Because we believe every playground should be unique to its environment.

We work collaboratively with councils and landscape designers ensuring each setting has its own magic that

we want to tap into. At Playground Creations, we seek the best people. The team we've created is highly skilled and experienced, and our external parties we work with have the same qualities.

Our playgrounds are built to last – so too are our relationships with our clients. That way, fun can be had by all.





Kulim Park Playground

Kulim Park is a beautiful north facing park at the edge of the harbour in Otūmoetai. Treasured by the local community, it has wonderful views across the harbour to Rangiwaia Island, Matakana Island and Mauao.

The existing playground was over 30 years old and did little to exploit the vistas and natural surrounding landscape. Tauranga City Council wanted to upgrade Kulim Park to increase the use and enjoyment of the site, establish walkway and cycleway connections, and improve vehicle movement, parking and drainage.

The Otūmoetai community, including Mana Whenua – Ngāi Tamarāwaho and Te Whānau a Tauwhao, played an important role in the design of the playground and were influential in sculpting the layout of the park, including the surface pattern which is a Ngāi Tamarāwaho design.

The playground features both natural play elements (stilts, logs, and rocks)

together with more traditional playground elements (swings, slides, and seesaws) and includes a 3x3 basketball court for older children. The sequencing of playground components encourages children to progress from the entrance across the whole playground finishing with a flying fox ride.

The ground surface and many of the play elements were selected to allow for wheelchair or all-ability access.

Sustainability elements came to the fore when creating Kulim Park. More than 1000m² of new gardens and retention pond planting was installed in the surrounding environment, and over 200 linear metres of a new shared cycle and walkway connects the playground directly to the beach/harbour.

The planting of additional trees for shade to cool the environment and fruit trees to sustain the local community added a unique finishing touch to this community asset.





Hamilton Lake Domain Playground

It's a favourite destination of many a Hamiltonian and visitor to the city. Situated on the east of Lake Rotoroa is the playground at Hamilton Lake Domain. It caters for children of all ages with a range of apparatus, seating and picnic tables, and, of course, places to feed the ducks.

In 2020, Playground Creations collaborated on the upgrade of the junior play area, bringing the vision of a new swing experience to life.

Designed for architectural appeal as well as functionality, the swings are made from stainless steel, providing stability for users while enabling children to gain easy movement.

Powdercoated in the colour of Pounamu, the swings add an eye-catching element to the playground's overall design. The frame reflects the ripples that can be seen on Lake Rotoroa while young (and old) can enjoy the magic of swinging high.





Tamahere Park Playground

The playground was officially opened with the support of students from Tamahere Model Country School who performed a haka and waiata. A tree planting by local tamariki, and a blessing for Ngati Haua, took place before local children were free to play.

Designed by Boffa Miskell Landscape Architects for the local community, Playground Creations supplied the play equipment and completed the installation.

The main tuna structure represents the eel (tuna) that live in our Waikato River. A large mound provides excellent opportunities for sliding, climbing, scaling and jumping on any of the three trampolines.

With a good variety of activities including the popular Roktopus Mouse House, rockers, spinners, and percussion play for all ages and abilities. It's an amazing play space, created for a community that wanted something different.





Opunake Playground

With views out over Opunake Beach and beyond, Bowen Crescent Playground has long been a destination for generations of this South Taranaki coastal community. Affectionately known as ‘the mountain playground’ for its central mountain play feature, the space, although well-loved, had become tired, unsafe, and in desperate need of replacement.

The Opunake Community Spaces Development Group (OCSD) consulted with the South Taranaki District Council, local iwi, and community to create a new playground vision. They wanted to incorporate ocean themed elements as well as retain the iconic mountain play feature.



The new playground, blends maunga and moana with custom built surfboards and a new and improved ‘mountain’ incorporating a variety of play elements. The rubber mound reflects a snow-capped Mount Taranaki, while the incorporation of native planting is a nod to the national park.

The new mountain feature connects with the environment while providing multiple opportunities for free play. The design is a magnet for children who can climb, scale, crawl and slide their way up, down, and through the mountain. Custom surfboards offer a taste of catching a wave and encourage body balance and risk taking, while the inclusion of a hammock is a great social space for several children to share – or one tired parent to catch a kip in the sea air!



Mahoe Park Playground

The playground features a host of Playground Creations components, from perennial favourites like swings and slides, to the Spidergon and Coconut Wriggle from our Natural Play Range. Combine all this with bright pops of colour and the magic of play is ignited!

Scale, swing, conquer, and climb! Every playground piece has been designed with purpose for children to not only have fun but gain confidence and develop skills through play.

The new monkey bars, nets, and climbing tower provide opportunities to build strength and utilise problem solving skills, while our popular talking tubes are great for encouraging social interaction.

Swings refine balance, co-ordination, and control, and the wobbly challenge of the coconut wriggle guarantees a giggle from players and spectators alike!





Thomson Street Playground

Waipa District Council wanted this space for families to come together and enjoy themselves, so included features that both parents and children will love. The much loved flying fox and seesaw were to be included in the new design and plans are in place for the creation of a community orchard with fruit trees.

Mansergh Graham Landscape Architects were engaged to redesign the existing playground.

The design uses stepping logs and recycled balance logs to create a forest of poles that weaves through the site for the children to explore, leading them between the various equipment and activities. A loop track cuts through the playground with smooth curves and roll over mounds, for scooters and skateboards, adding another dynamic layer of movement.

The end result is an open space that gives children the opportunity to play their own way, creating their own paths and stories.





Katikati Playground

Ohakune may be known for its carrots, Taihape for its gumboots, but over on the East Coast, Katikati is known for its avocados. This superfood is what created the inspiration for Playground Creations' design of the town's new playground.

Located in the centre of Katikati, the playground depicts the community's creativity, energy, and famous dark green fruit. Catering for children and of all ages



and abilities, Katikati's avocado themed playground boasts modern play equipment including an in-ground trampoline, climbing equipment, a basket swing, a bee rocker and percussion instruments.

An avocado motif can be seen on the artificial turf surrounding the trampoline. The artificial grass surface surrounding the bouncy avocado was laid by Team Turf.

This much-loved community asset, with its distinctive local flavour, has fast become a destination for Katikati's tamariki to enjoy.



Hakanoa Reserve

The tired old playground at Huntly's Hakanoa Reserve may have been well-loved, but it was also in desperate need of a makeover. Not just any makeover, but one that the local tamariki approved of.

So, that's where Waikato District Council's playground project team began. Consultation visits at Huntly primary schools and early childhood centres encouraged discussion on the upgrade. Their wishlist? Swings, slides, climbing frames and a scooter track.

The new play environment, with its colourful green and purple groundscape, now features a basket swing, slides, climbing frame, spinner, timber play structure and a scooter track. Playground Creations supplied the Junior Playground module and natural timber play elements.

A great team partnered to bring this transformation into effect and breathe new life into a popular play area for Huntly tamariki and visiting whānau.





Beach Road Playground

Situated right by the sea in Whangamata, this playground design needed to shout out a seaside theme.

This gave our team at Playground Creations the perfect excuse to get creative. Thatched beach huts providing shade and boats were designed, complemented with swings. It's a perfect place to get the family together and take a



family photo with a Whangamata wooden picture frame.

The scope of this project had strict budgets and restrictive footprints. Playground Creations took into consideration all of the ideas, suggestions and budget and delivered a great value for money design.

As a result, the community now has a very popular and fitting playground that has received plenty of compliments and smiles.



St Kilda Subdivision

An amazing play space has been created in Cambridge's unique St Kilda subdivision in the Waikato. St Kilda's goal is to create a safer community for all residents. Communal facilities such as a family playground area to foster a strong community spirit were important to this eco-friendly award-winning subdivision.

This innovative play space has been created around a basketball court, with a focus on natural play. Playground Creations worked with Line & Design Landscapes to supply and install the playground equipment. Natural playground equipment has been positioned around the court. Mounds were formed for embankment slides, tunnels, natural stepping and balancing activities were scattered around the wheels track, together with swings and overhead activities.

Designed to complement the natural environment, this play space has had rave reviews.





The Esplanade Whitianga

It was a wonderful turnout from the Whitianga community for the official opening ceremony of the Whitianga playground on The Esplanade.

What an amazing effort by everyone involved, in creating an incredible play space that inspires and ignites the magic of play in a stunning seaside location. Its packed with adventure and new play experiences for all ages and all abilities.

The location is rich in local history, and it has been designed to link to the history of the land. The ship, the HMS Buffalo, is a great place for children to use their imagination and learn about the history of the vessel.

The use of different textures throughout the playground provide exciting elements that reflect the seaside theme. Sand and water play, board walks and wheel tracks, that create many areas for children to explore. The play space is completed with natural plantings.





Jim Barker Memorial Playground

The park was named after transport industry legend and proud Otorohanga local – Jim Barker.

Located in New Zealand's official 'Kiwiana Town', the project was initiated by the Project Kiwiana Committee and supported by the Barker Family. Bespoke Landscape Architects designed the playground with a wide range of equipment and experiences for all ages and abilities.

Working with Bespoke Landscape Architects, a custom-built truck, the 'Straitsman' boat and a flying fox were created and built by Playground Creations.

The truck represents Jim Barker and Otorohanga Transport, where local and visiting families can imagine driving to farms or herding livestock up the race.

The 'Straitsman' boat allows children to image "sailing" across the Cook Strait with their heads full of dreams.



Waikirikiri Playground

The dream of a new playground for the Kaiti Community, in Gisborne, has now become a reality.

The Council worked hard to gather insights through community engagement about what the tamariki wanted included in their space. It's a good reminder that young people have a lot to contribute to the development of their community, and

we need to make opportunities to give them a voice.

The park has a rich history, and linking the seven housewives of Dalton Street back into the play space, will enhance and grow this into future stories. We restored items of existing playground equipment, with a good variety of equipment including spinning, swinging, slide, balance and climbing gear. The winning design ticked all of their boxes.



Te Kopua Reserve

Te Kopua Reserve is picture perfect, set right beside the harbour in Raglan. Being walking distance from town, it is a popular family destination.

Working with Waikato District Council, we created a play space, paving, and park furniture that can be enjoyed by all.

A senior playground located close to the skate park provide challenges, and includes swings and Raglan's very own crafted wooden surfboard balance.

There is a space for younger children to explore, including a pre-school playground, climbing net and toddler swings.

This reserve is set up for children of all ages to run round freely and explore a huge range of activities from sliding, swinging, spinning and balancing.

It's the talk of the town.





Rotary Park Playground

Creative natural play is linked with the history of the land at Rotary Park Playground in Tauranga.

Designed by Beca Landscape Architects for the Tauranga City Council, Playground Creations supplied the play equipment, landscaping and completed the installation.

There is an outdoor classroom where stories of the site can be told, designed in the shape of the Opūpū (catseye shellfish) with a focus on natural play. Stainless steel embankment slides and scale ropes sheltered by the trees, the flounder net rooted in sand, logs dotted on ends and seesaws make for a perfect play space.

The mix of a variety of textures – sand, softfall, shell and plantings were used to enliven the children's senses.





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