



Kids Playground

Almere | The Netherlands | Realised by: Brakel Atmos, The Netherlands

"Cooperation led us to the correct solution."
Ruud Sliepenbeek, owner of Kids Playgrond Almere

Fire safety concept that suits the character of a children's playground

Task: create a fire safety solution in an open space

Kids Playground Almere is a playground with a total surface area of 2165 m² and a maximum height of 9 metres. This large, high space is open. Children are allowed to climb, slide, jump and generally scramble around to their heart's content. Walls that divide such an area would never fit in with the concept of Kids Playground. Brakel was assigned with the task of creating an efficient fire safety solution that suited the open character of an indoor playground.



Solution: An SHEV system based on equality

• SHEV system

Five mechanical facade ventilators each with a cross-section of more than 1 metre together with an adequate air supply can maintain a smoke-free area up to 5.75 metres high for up to 5 minutes after fire breaks out, with smoke-free zone higher than 2.5 metres on the first floor. This creates a safe escape route for children, personnel and supervisors. Eura louvred ventilators are fitted behind the facade ventilators, and are opened automatically in the event of fire. The air supply is channelled through air supply doors.

• Fire detection

The SHEV system is controlled by a certified fire alarm system, is fully monitored and has a direct link to the Fire Department. The Kids Playground personnel have received full instructions.

• Maintenance

These are certified systems that are subjected to annual maintenance by Brakel.

Good advice

Ruud Sliepenbeek, the owner of Kids Playground, was advised by his architect, Tichelaar Architects, to talk to Brakel. "We had some pleasant discussions with Brakel during the preliminary stages where we discussed the possible solutions. We chose Brakel as we felt that we had been correctly advised during the preliminary stages." Sliepenbeek is also pleased with the end product: "The people at Brakel have a flexible, practical approach."

"Brakel is flexible and practical in their execution."

Result

The fire alarm system and the SHEV system was correctly installed and tested. The staff of Kids Playground were fully instructed and know exactly what to do in the event of a fire. Sliepenbeek remains alert to possible problems. The playground equipment is checked daily and he organises evacuation drills much more often than the legal minimum of once per year. "We need to be sure that we are doing everything as it should be. We won't take a single risk when it comes to safety; after all, we have children in our care."

Success factors

- Brakel's expertise regarding equality and the current regulations.
- Good advice during the preliminary stages.
- A robust solution that satisfied the Fire Department.
- The playground has remained a large open space due to this practical solution.



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