

Children's Playground 「兒童游樂場」



Elderly Area 「長者專區」



Rest Area 「休憩區」

Introduction of the Prosperous Garden

Prosperous Garden is located at 2 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon. It was completed in 1991. In 2005, because of the promotion of “ageing-in-place,” “Elderly Resources Centre” was set up by the Housing Society in the Prosperous Garden (Hong Kong Housing Society(2020)). There are 157 elderly flats. And this time, our mission is to set up a design proposal for “Intergenerational Play Space”. There are some objectives that we want to meet. Here below are our innovative ideas for transforming Prosperous Garden.

Main Objectives

Prosperous Garden can be changed to a park where all age-groups can have fun between parents, children and the elderly. They can use the facilities together in this park, for example, they can use the fitness equipment together and enjoy the same space at the moment so as to create a joyful atmosphere and environment in the Prosperous Garden. They can have more interactions although they have different chatting topics because of different ages and generations. We want to increase the incentives of the elderly to go outside to talk with others and do fitness exercises and so on. We want to showcase this new intergenerational play space to them, and these can be beneficial to their life at the old stage. We want to figure out more innovative ideas in order to foster the development of society in Hong Kong.

Social impact

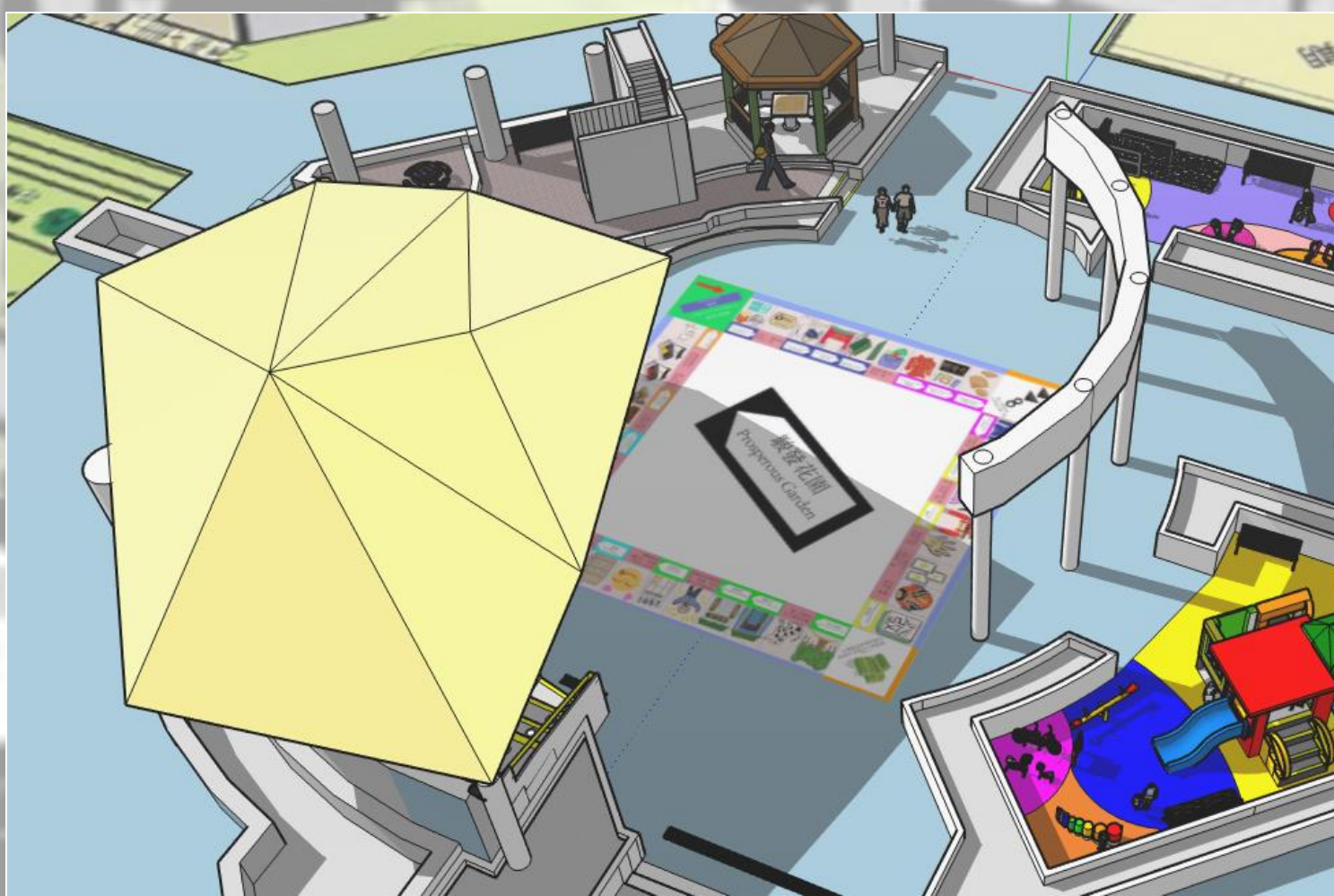
This intergenerational play space will be provided to all people whatever they are children, parents, adults, the elderly. We hope that all age-groups of people can use the facilities and equipment together which can increase interaction between them.

-Proof of concept on research related to intergenerational play space

According to Healthy Years' (2019) article, it mentioned that UCLA geriatric psychologist Alan Castel, PhD said, "seeing and being around grandchildren may give more meaning and motivation to live a healthy life." The elderly may want to spend time on playing and looking after their grandchildren.

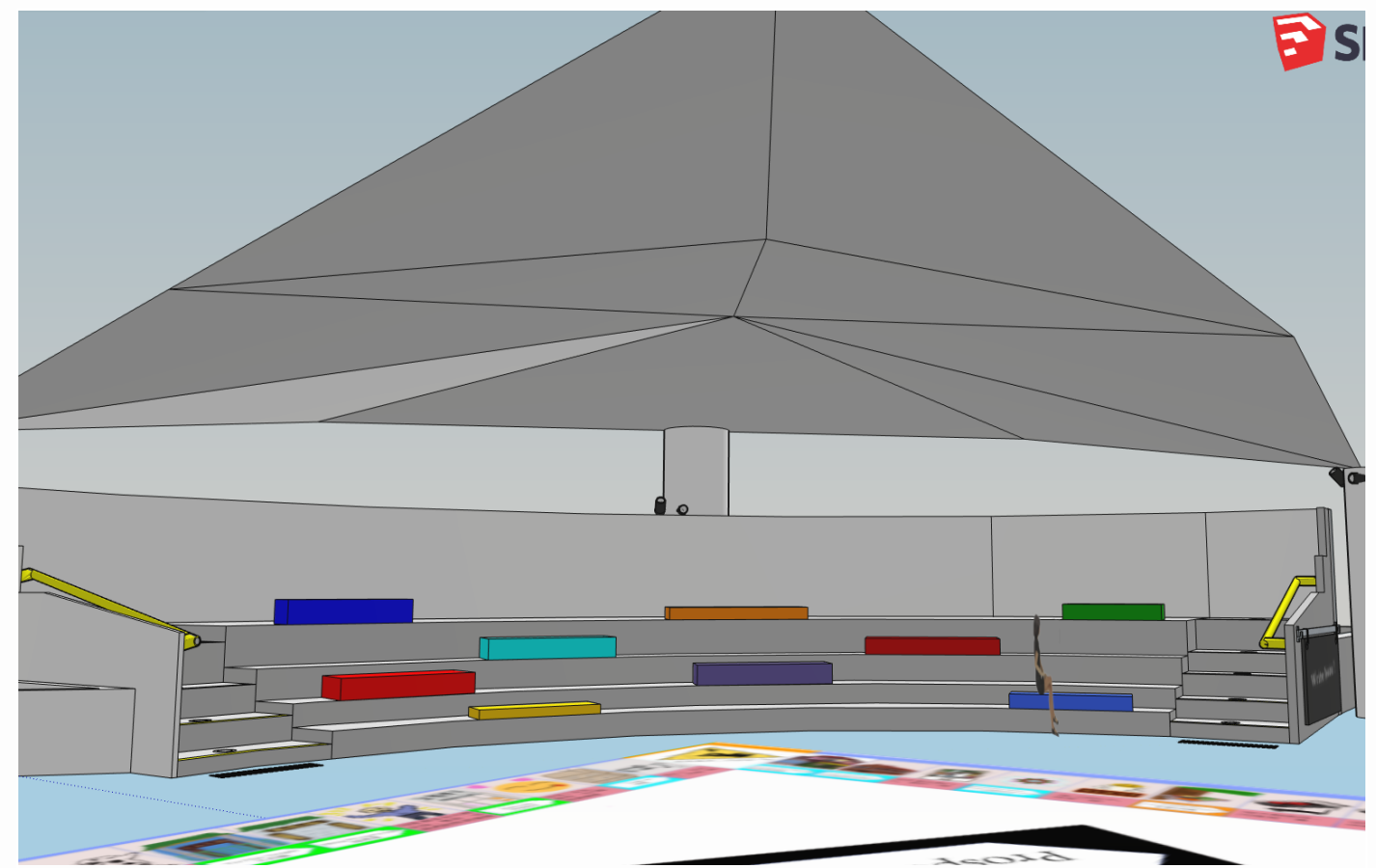
Why do we need an intergenerational play space?

According to Elizabeth Hopper (2019)'s online articles, contact may reduce prejudice, and it can be more beneficial to relationships between people. The author mentioned about "Contact Hypothesis" of Gordon Allport which people can reduce prejudice by interaction and contact with each other. Therefore, we follow this theory and try to design a comprehensive intergenerational play space to Prosperous Garden, for example, we would like to use an area to provide a monopoly with elements of history and features of Yau Ma Tei for all people to enjoy. Children can play on this monopoly, and adults and the elderly can know more about the history of Yau Ma Tei. The elderly can memorize their past life in Yau Ma Tei through looking at this monopoly.



Promotion of intergenerational interaction

In regards to promotion of intergenerational interaction, the monopoly can make all people to have more contact, for instance, children can make new friends naturally. Grandparents and parents can look after their children easily. Some of the elderly like to look after their grandsons. These can foster and apply "contact theory" to enhance their relationships. If adults and the elderly really want to play with them, they can choose to use exercise bikes which virtual reality will be set up as games for them. All of these can increase and promote intergenerational interaction.



Site utilisation and layout

As for site utilisation and layout, vertical walls of Prosperous Garden can be used as chalkboards, projection or monitors. The content would be some games or cartoons about past history and cultures of Yau Ma Tei. They can have revisions about past experiences, memories and sympathetic responses to Yau Ma Tei District. The walls of Piazza would be changed to mural paintings concerning Yau Ma Tei's well-known buildings and places. This will be very meaningful.

Landscape design

Regarding landscape design, Piazza's wall will be changed to mural paintings of Yau Ma Tei. The main part of Piazza is "Monopoly" for all people. It will be more colourful than the old park. The main part of this intergenerational play space (Children's Playground) will be the Half-cabinet Hawker Stall with Canopy.

Holistic management consideration

About the direction of the holistic management, we still pursue the established policy to manage the park, we will keep the user-friendly and simplified style to manage the operation of the park. Also, we will bring the new element of park management, such as promotion of the Inter-generation and culture transmitting.

Community engagement and strategies e.g. activities

Concerning community engagement and strategies, Prosperous Garden Management can cooperate with some elderly centres in the Prosperous Garden, for example, they can hold some activities of traditional festivals.