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Media release

Architecture that encourages movement

The nursery school in Thalgau, Austria, combines architecture, pedagogy, and materiality to create a holistic learning environment. High-quality parquet floors from Bauwerk Parkett help set the tone in the interiors.



The new building in the community of Thalgau in the Salzburg district is a contemporary educational facility emphasising movement, a connection to nature, and flexible spatial design. The architecture firm architekten schoenberger from Neumarkt am Wallersee won the open, Europe-wide competition. The mission: To create a modern, child-orientated space that supports daily pedagogical use. The Trendpark 1390 collection from Bauwerk Parkett combines healthy living material qualities with durability for everyday use, also significantly enhancing the sensory perception of the rooms.

An open, pavilion-style building constructed with hybrid timber construction with space for six pre-school groups on two levels, the nursery school Kindergarten Thalgau was built next to Fischbach Stream in Thalgau. The two-storey cube, with its well-balanced proportions and an impressively clean, minimalist facade, blends seamlessly into its surroundings. Delicate vertical timber cladding, generous floor-to-ceiling windows, and a terraced perimeter create flowing connections between indoor and outdoor spaces – giving the building a light, airy appearance.

Architecture as an invitation to movement

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“Functional clarity, sensitively interaction with the structural and social context, and a consistent approach to materials are the foundation of our work,” said the architect Martin Schönberger. In Kindergarten Thalgau, this attitude is reflected in a design that consciously integrates movement as motivation for learning. The terraced perimeter extends the group rooms outwards, enabling them to be used irrespective of the weather. At the same time, its sections regulate the room climate by creating shady zones on warm days. Slides, a suspension footbridge and an XL hammock in netting are playful elements within the overall concept.

Inside, the large seating step system that connects the storeys was installed using Bauwerk Parkett – as were the parquet floors. The colour, surface treatment, and gloss level of the parquet and wooden steps are identical in order to create a seamless transition. As a result, the warm wood surface can be experienced as a design element throughout the entire interior.

The rooms are designed to be flexible: depending on requirements, they can be left open, divided, or interconnected. This creates a vibrant learning landscape that allows for both quiet time and group activities. Spruce surfaces in white-tinted varnish meet light-exposed concrete surfaces to create a calm, friendly sense of space. Installations like cabinets and seating alcoves are integrated into the architecture, supporting a minimalist design. At the same time, they provide functional solutions for daily use.

Materiality and interior design

The materials are intentionally differentiated and precisely arranged. Sand-blasted, hammered, or boardmarked concrete surfaces enter into an exciting dialogue with oiled, brushed, and rough-sawn wood. The result is a multi-layered, tactile architecture with a highly sensual quality. The floor plays a key role – as a connecting element and as a defining surface for everyday life in the nursery school. Drawing on many years of positive experience from previous projects, the architecture firm deliberately selected Bauwerk Parkett as its flooring partner. From the initial planning stages, the aspect of healthy living was a crucial consideration. According to the architects: “In educational buildings for children in particular, most of the day is spent on the floor – when the children are playing, reading, moving or resting.” Therefore, materials that combine natural tactile qualities, a pleasant indoor climate, and low emissions are essential.

Over an area of around 1,050 m², they installed Trendpark 1390 Oak Nature brushed and natural oiled. As a durable yet warm surface, it plays a significant role in creating a natural atmosphere within the interior spaces and contributes significantly to healthy living. With its wide, no-bevel planks, the 2-layer parquet sets a calm, expansive tone for the interior. At the same time, the parquet impresses with high durability and easy maintenance for daily use—crucial qualities for busy, lively rooms.

In terms of sustainability, the parquet also fits into the overall concept. The wood used comes from controlled sources, and the parquet has independent low-emission

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certification. It also fulfils stringent requirements for sustainable, healthy building. With projects like Kindergarten Thalgau, Bauwerk Parkett underscores its claim to combine architectural quality with healthy, sustainable materials.

The interplay between sustainability and identity

Kindergarten Thalgau demonstrates how architectural excellence, sustainable building techniques, and pedagogic needs can unite to form a cohesive overall concept. The blend of hybrid-timber construction, well-thought-out spatial organisation, and carefully selected materials creates an impressive environment in both functionality and atmosphere. The floor from Bauwerk Parkett makes a significant contribution: it combines design simplicity with high usability, maintaining the standard of durable, healthy materials. A space with its own identity that sets the tone for children's daily activities and at the same time, consistently pursues the architectural concept is the result.

Facts and figures

Project: Kindergarten Thalgau, 5303 Thalgau, Salzburg (AT)

Architecture: architekten schoenberger, Arch. DI Martin Schönberger, Neumarkt am Wallersee, www.arch-schoenberger.at

Completion: October 2025

Project size: Effective area 1,250 m²

Bauwerk Parkett: 1,050 m² Trendpark 1390 Oak Nature

Installation partner: Reiböck & Reiböck GmbH, 5020 Salzburg (AT), www.reiboeck.at

Photos: Norbert Freudenthaler

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1 Group rooms in the new nursery school in Thalgau provide plenty of space for playing and movement. The no-bevel planks from the collection Trendpark 1390 by Bauwerk Parkett create a calm, uniform surface where subtle colour gradations blend into a harmonious overall appearance and support the clear architectural design. Photo: Norbert Freudenthaler

2 The open spatial structures of the new building are characterised by fluid transitions, long visual axes, and integrated installations. Light concrete surfaces, spruce walls in white-tinted varnish, and continuous oak parquet create a friendly, harmonious overall look. Photo: Norbert Freudenthaler

3 Designed for flexibility, the rooms can either remain open, be divided, or interconnected to suit different needs. Movement, quiet periods, and communal learning all take their place within the lively spatial structure. Photo: Norbert Freudenthaler

4 Floor-to-ceiling windows and foldable sliding partitions effortlessly link the indoor and outdoor spaces. The light wood facade enhances the contemporary, open feel and reinforces the connection to nature. Photo: Norbert Freudenthaler

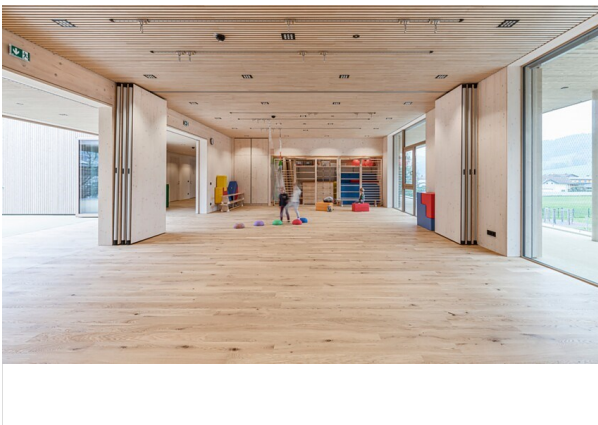
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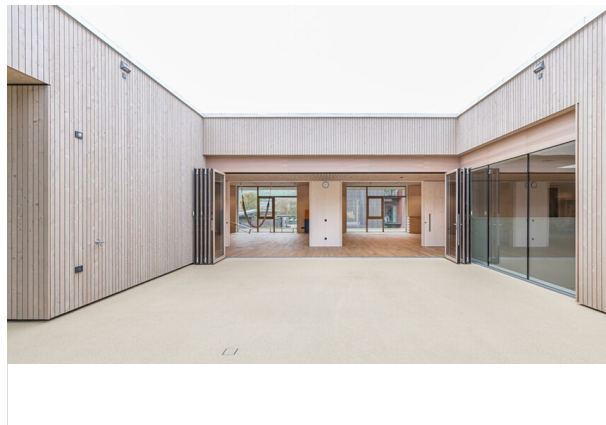
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5 Floor-to-ceiling glass surfaces open up the dining area to the surrounding natural environment and let in plenty of daylight. Concrete, light woods, and warm wooden flooring from Bauwerk Parkett combine to create a calm, balanced atmosphere that conveys safety, security, and openness. Photo: Norbert Freudenthaler

6 An extensive seating step system connects the storeys and provides a space for playing and meeting. Photos: Norbert Freudenthaler

7 The steps were also realised with Bauwerk Parkett, joining the floor surfaces and step system to create a continuous spatial landscape. Photos: Norbert Freudenthaler

8 The clear cubage of the two-storey hybrid-timber structure subtly integrates into its surroundings. Vertical timber cladding, expansive floor-to-ceiling windows, and a terraced perimeter create seamless transitions between indoor and outdoor spaces, adding to the building's light, open appearance. Photo: Norbert Freudenthaler

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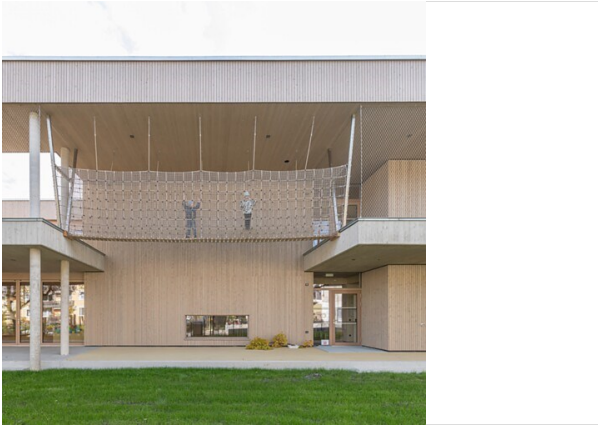


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9 The architecture makes room for movement: slides, a suspension footbridge, and an XL net hammock are integral components of the design. This creates a playful environment that encourages activity and intuitively supports learning. Photo: Norbert Freudenthaler

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Bauwerk Parkett – Built for a lifetime

What began in 1935, when the Swiss pioneer Ernst Göhner invented solid parquet, is the standard for sophisticated design and healthy living today. Just like every tree and every piece of wood, each of our responsibly produced planks is unique and made for a lifetime. Swiss engineering skill and real nature have merged to create extraordinary living experiences – today and for future generations.

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