

**Time frame**

2016

Stakeholders

Political executive
 Formal education
 Government builders
 Landscape architects
 Architects

Typologies (space types)

Inside space
 Outside space

**Institutional framework****Design quality criteria**

Freedom from danger
 Accessibility
 Designability
 Opportunities to interact

**Structure-related quality criteria**

Designing the provisions/
 living spaces
 Collaboration
 Participation and identification

The starting point

The Wauwil school aims to have children and young people actively engage with their living environment. When the Linde 3 school building was to have a new extension, the break rooms were also due to be redesigned. At the suggestion of the school heads, the local council (executive) and school administration (the democratically elected body responsible for the school's strategic management) decided to include children from the fifth year of primary school in the planning process for the new extension. Similarly, all children and young people from kindergarten to the third year of secondary school (year 9) were able to submit their wishes and ideas for the break room design.

The school worked with the drumrum Raumschule association on the implementation. The project was called "Schul(T)räume Wauwil" and "Pausen(T)räume Wauwil" ["Wauwil dream school rooms" and "Wauwil dream break rooms"].

Aims

Pupils in Wauwil should have a voice and be involved in the design and development of their dream school and break rooms. Pupils should take note of both their indoor and outdoor spaces and relate their own ideas and needs for the various rooms by submitting words, sketches and models to the landscape architects and architects. The specialist planners would then receive a catalogue of ideas for the building plan that demonstrated the basic needs of future users.

Target group

- Years 5 to 9 for the issue of the extension
- Kindergarten to year 9 for the design of the break rooms

Project progression

Pupils addressed the future design of the new extension and the break spaces in a three-step project process.

At an event in mid-March 2016, the key ideas and wishes of the users and interested parties of the Wauwil school were gathered.

During two half-day workshops in June 2016, the most popular ideas for the extension and/or the break rooms were consolidated in a model and then presented along with representatives of the pupils' council from kindergarten to year 9.

The actual implementation then followed. Among other things, the pupils and their parents were first encouraged to visualise and sketch their dream school and break rooms. This then gave rise to a catalogue of ideas. The ideas were presented to the build commission and the architect team. Models were created in architectural workshops and presented to the public.

- Groundbreaking
- Decorating the "Aufrichtebäumchen" (a traditional tree used as part of the topping-out ceremony)
- Organising and holding the topping-out ceremony
- Obtaining a change to the façade
- Painting and furnishing the school rooms
- Colour and light design of the corridors
- Colour design of the toilet facilities
- Furnishing the learning and chill-out rooms Specific participation of the children and their parents in the break space design
- Building tours with the pupils
- Documentation in word, images, film and on www.schule-wauwil.ch

Success factors

- Local council, school administration, school heads, school team and building commission stand behind the project and support it with a lot of personal dedication.
- Short information and decision-making pathways are an enormous help in implementing a participative project. It is mainly about really taking the concerns of children and young people seriously and then implementing them where possible. This gives them a valuable experience of success and reinforces their self-efficacy.

Challenges

As early as the architecture tender, it is very much recommended to set out the fact that the municipality, as the client, will give children and young people a real and serious voice in the design of the planned extension. Participation is then a matter of course from the outset, which eliminates certain obstacles that we had to overcome at the beginning of the project.

Conclusion

All those involved remain highly enthusiastic despite the high costs for the organisation and coordination and the high level of flexibility that this project demanded of the teachers and pupils.

By engaging with their environment and participating in the projects, the children and young people enhanced their self-efficacy and gained educational experience with the model and in the various construction phases. This also promotes a sensitive approach to the environment, materials and furniture.

Contact details

Schule Wauwil
Ursula Matter, Gesamtschulleiterin
Stufenleiterin Sekundarschule
+ 41 (0)41 984 20 30
ursula.matter@schule-wauwil.ch

Nevena Torboski
drumrum Raumschule
info@drumrum-raumschule.ch

Information

[https://www.schule-wauwil.ch/
%C3%BCber-uns/partizipation-1/
schul-und-pausen-t-r%C3%A4ume/](https://www.schule-wauwil.ch/%C3%BCber-uns/partizipation-1/schul-und-pausen-t-r%C3%A4ume/)

