



A variety of play spaces make up the kindergarten, including climbing walls, slides and soft-play furniture with plastic balls in hues of green and blue.



Anne Deppe

PME FAMILIENSERVICE

## BAUKIND draws on experience to bring together work and play at the headquarters of a private childcare provider

**HAMBURG** – Berlin-based studio baukind has addressed Hamburg's growing need for daycare centres in an overly-saturated market by incorporating a facility into the new headquarters of pme Familienservice – a private childcare provider. The office accommodates 25 staff and includes two meeting rooms, a conference room and an event space for up to 100 visitors, but the kindergarten is the heart of the project.

The site is Hamburg's HafenCity district – the former port of the city – which led the architects to create an interior design inspired by nautical history. In the kindergarten, a combination of the colours, shapes and sounds of the maritime mood with topical spaces,

encourages children to explore. Workspaces follow the inspiration of the harbour in a subtler way, with circulation areas accented in blue hues and furniture clad in timber or industrial corrugated metal.

Given the centre's young users, the office was never going to include rows of bland furniture and grey walls. Instead, the focus is on the playful exploration that allows children to discover their own abilities 'in a natural way'. The interior configuration is dominated by play areas with caves and hidden niches, a climbing wall, water games, bespoke islands and abstract environments that promote imagination and creativity.



Colour accents throughout the building break up the white spaces and create niches for private research or reading.



**Workspaces follow the inspiration of the city's harbour, with furniture clad in timber and corrugated metal, and blue accents throughout**



By integrating a kindergarten into the headquarters of PME Familienservice, baukind was able to fully portray the company's message through its workplace design.

## The kindergarten is the heart of the project

