Prismatic playsurface
Wedged in between the pole forest lies a large, prismatically shaped play surface. It has been ‘draped’ over the terril, following its heightlines – a gesture that is visible from afar. The surface is a challenging object, that narrows down to the top and ‘crumbles’ at the foot of the hill. This tectonic landscape offers space to an endless variation of play options, and is scattered with crawling tunnels, climbing surfaces with climbing grips and ‘giant stairs’. Its spectacular highlight is the more than twenty meters long slide, which is placed halfway up the hill and is integrated within the relief of the concrete play surface. The various prismatic surfaces invite children to climb, slide, hide and discover. The surface consists of sloped, horizontal and vertical crossings, inspired by the underground mining shafts.

All integrated playelements in both the pole forest and the prismatic playsurface have one thing in common: they challenge children physically, to play together and use their motor skills. The sensation of an increasing height and difficulty level of the ‘parcours’ – the higher you climb, the more difficult it gets – asks for collaboration and mutual encouragement, until one reaches the top. Cooperation and stimulation are therefore intrinsically connected with the play experience, as an immaterial reference to the hard physical work of the old mine-workers, who had to trust one another unconditionally.