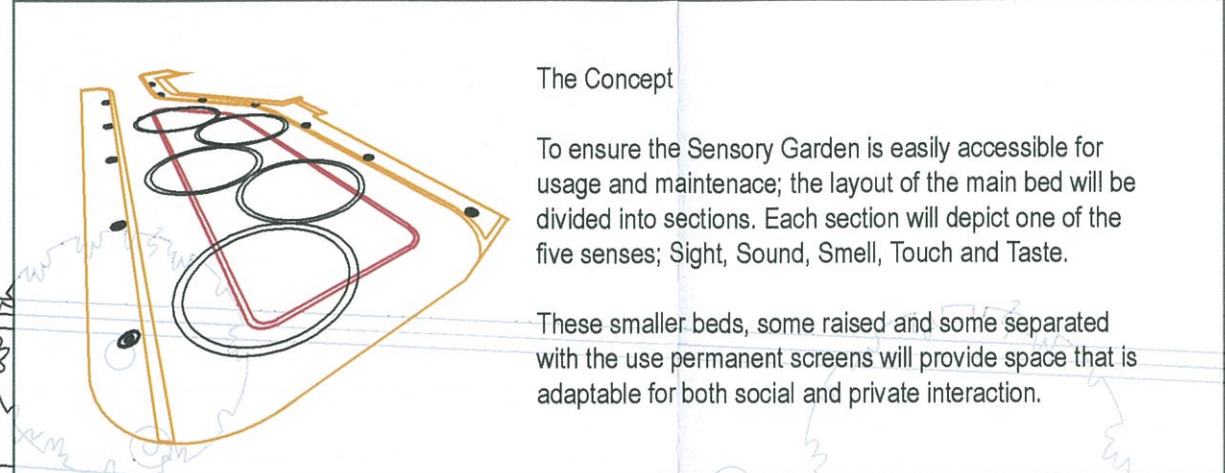


The Sensory Garden

The Concept

To ensure the Sensory Garden is easily accessible for usage and maintenance; the layout of the main bed will be divided into sections. Each section will depict one of the five senses; Sight, Sound, Smell, Touch and Taste.

These smaller beds, some raised and some separated with the use permanent screens will provide space that is adaptable for both social and private interaction.



Raised planter for people with different levels of physical impairment. Wheelchair users and others who cannot stand for long can weed or plant while seated.

Sight
Vibrant colours provide visual stimulation. Combination planting ensures year round interest.

Taste
Fruits and vegetables combined with herbs and edible flowers.

Sound
Combinations of grass varieties create different experiences according to wind speed and direction.

Smell
Distinctive fragrances created by herbs and flowers encourage interaction.

Touch
Contrasts in textures; silky, velvety and smooth, others harsh, rough and prickly.

The Brief

To create a Sensory garden to enrich experience through design for the full range of senses. A dementia friendly garden aiming to support independence and mobility in a safe and secure environment.

Gardens give people the option to control their personal space for privacy or social contact. People with dementia benefit from carefully planned outdoor settings for both quiet and noisy experiences; active gardening can meet the needs of people at different stages of impairment. Areas of privacy and reflection are also as important in shared living environments. People may quietly connect with the natural environment whilst sitting under a tree or use the space to socialise with family or friends.

Gardening may awaken long-term memories as it is a sensory experience involving taste, touch, sight, sound and smell. This stimulus is an important function in their lives as it provides meaningful activity.



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