

26th November 2026

Romilly School, Wales, delighted with Fast Track Sports Hall transformation using Taraflex SL Sports Flooring from Gerflor!

Romilly Primary School in Barry, Wales, faced a key challenge! The urgent need to replace their aging sports hall floor fast and with minimal downtime. The education facility was well overdue with its flooring upgrade and required a fast-track sustainable renovation. The sports floor would need to meet a high-performance criterion for safety and comfort to protect its young users, whilst also meeting modern standards. Gerflor were delighted to assist with this transformation with the supply of its Taraflex Evolution SL Sports Flooring!

Avoiding a lengthy downtime was a major consideration, as was instigating a sustainable refurbishment that could be delivered on time and to budget, whilst also meeting the required flooring performance for the refurbishment project. Gerflor was pleased to help the School with this challenge by supplying 458 m² of Taraflex® Evolution SL (Sustainable Looselay) Olympic pedigree sports flooring. The solution comprised of Taraflex Evolution SL Vinyl and an Area Elastic under carriage system, the colours selected included London Light Blue and Red for the border.

Romilly Primary School have catered for the children of Barry since 1893; with this long serving tradition and distinguished history it enjoys a special place in the local community. Romilly Primary School strongly believe in continuing and building upon these foundations with pupil learning and fitness and well- at the very core of what they provide. Romilly Primary School has a 'Mission' that is focused on "Learning, Growing and Succeeding Together!" whereby the ethos is that all children deserve the absolute best when it comes to providing stimulating, safe, and creative environments.

Commenting on the project Tony Thorne, Gerflor Sales and Specification Manager, South Wales said, "The council initially considered using a PU sports floor, but after several high-level collaborative meetings they recognised the benefits of Taraflex® Evolution SL vinyl sports flooring over PU, particularly with the low life cycle costs."

Tony Thorne further added, "We put together a very competitive package utilising the new Taraflex® Evolution SL loose lay sports flooring and brought in Mark Biddle to price up the line marking directly with Trefoil Interiors, the installers who would also be involved in this iconic project."

The existing floor in situ was a 'painted concrete' with uneven levels across the sports hall, to overcome this issue would take time, resources and cost before a new floor covering installation could be even considered. However, as part of the process Gerflor were able to demonstrate other project references in the Southwest of England where Schools had encountered and overcome such issues using Taraflex SL Sports flooring, they were able to transform their sports halls quickly and easily whilst minimising cost and reducing time in project completion.

Tony Thorne further explained, "We recommended a cradle and batten undercarriage, allowing height adjustments without the need to add new screed. This approach was key to avoiding additional costs and saving time on the project."

From a sustainability perspective, the project incorporated the Taraflex Evolution SL product, a loose-lay flooring solution selected for its environmental benefits. By removing the need for adhesive, this option not only reduces the environmental impact but also allows the floor to be recycled at the end of its 25-year life cycle.

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Installed using double-sided tape, the floor can be easily removed, enabling minor repairs to the undercarriage before a new floor is laid. In contrast, using adhesives would have compromised the undercarriage, making Taraflex SL Sports Flooring the natural choice as a more sustainable and practical solution.

Delivering a solution that was both visually striking and highly practical for a demanding sports facility was a challenge expertly met by Cardiff-based Trefoil Interiors. Trefoil Interiors specialise in complete interior fit-out projects, offering expertise in a wide range of flooring solutions, including sports floors. Their extensive experience spans modular and traditional construction, dilapidations, design, 3D visualising, refurbishment, furniture, and project management, delivering tailored solutions at both local and national levels.

Trefoil Interiors played a key role in upgrading the Sports Barn at Romilly School for the Vale of Glamorgan Council. The project presented challenges, particularly with the existing floor levels, which had variances of up to 90mm. To address these issues, Dan Townsend, Commercial Director at Trefoil Interiors, explained that the Gerflor cradle system was the ideal solution: "The Gerflor Sports cradle system allowed us to manage the height discrepancies and create a solid foundation for the new floor."

The installation process was time-intensive due to the number of cradles required to overcome the floor's irregularities. Three fitters were on-site for three weeks to complete the installation of the cradle system, Taraflex Evolution SL floor, and line marking. "The installation took up most of our time, but the Gerflor Taraflex Sports flooring products were easy to work with, and we faced no issues during the fitting process," said Dan Townsend.

The project was a great success, with the client highly satisfied with the performance of the Taraflex Evolution SL sports floor. The floor's versatility has allowed the school to rent out the Sports Barn to local sports clubs outside of school hours, maximising its use and yielded returns.

Dan Townsend further commented, "It was clear that there are very few products on the market that could meet the specific requirements for this education project.

Due to time and cost constraints, a screed system simply wasn't viable. With the Taraflex SL sports flooring solution and also with the exceptional support throughout the process from Tony Thorne at Gerflor, the end result would not have been possible, a successfully delivered fit for purpose sports floor for the school and the variety of its users."

The Taraflex® sports range of products continue to be a popular choice for community centres, sports, and leisure facilities, as well as education sports halls across the UK, Republic of Ireland and worldwide. Taraflex® is the Name Under the Game... It's where Champions Begin, Learn, Train, and Play.

Tony Thorne summed up the Romilly School project by saying, "The refurbishment of the school's sports hall flooring was a proven example of how Gerflor's Taraflex Evolution SL sports flooring was able to supply the ideal solution for the client, with the minimum of fuss and disruption to the schools' day to day activities. Specifying the Taraflex SL sports floor covering also pressed a number of eco buttons which was high on the school's agenda."

Gerflor Overview

Gerflor is a leading manufacturer of comprehensive flooring solutions for sports and educational facilities, offering a range of products including vinyl, linoleum, and carpets. Gerflor's innovative flooring systems help create functional, durable, and visually appealing environments, while also enhancing and protecting educational and sports interiors. Gerflor's flooring solutions are designed to extend the lifespan of facilities, reduce long-term maintenance costs, and ensure safety and accessibility for all users. Gerflor works closely with the education and sports sectors to provide tailored flooring solutions that meet the specific needs of these dynamic environments.

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Gerflor product overview specified for Romilly School

Taraflex® Evolution SL sports flooring

Taraflex® Evolution SL is an innovative installation technology that works seamlessly with our Taraflex® floors, eliminating the need for adhesive. This results in a faster, easier, and more sustainable installation without compromising performance or quality.

As part of the Taraflex® Olympic pedigree, Taraflex® Evolution SL offers exceptional sustainability, with eco-friendly construction, recycled content, and ease of reuse and recycling at the end of its life. Its low-maintenance design further enhances its sustainability throughout the floor's lifespan.

Environmental Commitment

Taraflex® Evolution SL combines sustainability with high-quality standards. Its adhesive-free installation eliminates the need for glues, improving indoor air quality and laying comfort while reducing installation time.

Sustainable Design

Crafted with eco-friendly materials, Taraflex® Evolution SL features textile fibres made from recycled plastic bottles. Easy to install and remove with Tarafix® SL holding strips, it can be reused or recycled. Manufactured in Europe with a low CO2 footprint, it meets stringent environmental standards, including 100% REACH compliance and formaldehyde-free composition.

Unmatched Quality and Performance

Taraflex® Evolution SL delivers superior quality and performance, with its reinforced textile backing and Tarafix® SL strips ensure exceptional durability and dimensional stability, avoiding common issues like inflations and extra thickness.

Performance and Safety

With its P1 category, Taraflex® Evolution SL offers exceptional performance and safety for competitive sports. It is also designed for exercise and play for all ages and abilities, providing the right solution every time.

Hygienic and Safe

Treated with Protecso®, Taraflex® ensures easy maintenance, anti-friction burn, and optimal slide/grip. Bacteriostatic and fungistatic treatment enhances hygiene, making it suitable for all ages and abilities.

Time-Saving Benefits

Taraflex® Evolution SL reduces installation time by 25% compared to traditional adhesive installations, while still maintaining high-quality performance and durability. It can be reused or recycled at the end of its lifecycle, preserving its value for future use.

Versatile Application

Trusted in every Olympic Games since 1976, Taraflex® is the flooring choice for national and international governing bodies. Ideal for new builds and refurbishments, Taraflex® delivers outstanding durability and cost-effectiveness for various sports and leisure applications.

Used widely in education, community, leisure, health, and fitness sectors, Taraflex® sports flooring supports over eight million children daily, providing versatility for multi-sport and leisure uses.

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It's worth highlighting that Gerflor offers a wide variety of sports flooring solutions beyond the Taraflex® range. With top-tier sub-construction systems designed for enhanced shock absorption and linoleum playing surfaces like the DLW Sports range, Gerflor provides solutions to improve any facility. Whether it's for competitive sports, recreational use, or multi-functional spaces, Gerflor has a flooring solution that meets the unique needs of every environment.

Learn more about Gerflor solutions, ask for a free sample or contact us to speak to a specialist today by calling 01625 428 922, emailing contractuk@gerflor.com, or visiting gerflor.co.uk for the latest innovations.

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