Ranked first in the UN World Happiness report in 2012, 2013 and 2016, Denmark is arguably one of the happiest nations in the world. The trending Danish ‘hygge’ lifestyle, based on comfort and wellness, testifies for this. A non-negligible contributor to the strength of the Danish model for happiness is that it is particularly child-oriented. However, the Danish population has also been growing in the past years, particularly in Copenhagen, with a yearly increase of 1.32% between 2011 and 2015. Higher population density can put pressure on child-friendliness within the urban structure: for instance, a study conducted by Li and Li (2017) in China revealed that the child-friendliness of the city decreases with higher density. In addition, Copenhagen is subject to general challenges faced in creating cities tailored for children: the lack of consideration of children in the design and planning of cities is an oft-mentioned criticism, which is observed around the world, including in most developed nations.

With these points in mind, it seems that creating a child-friendly environment, even for the Danes, is not as easy as may seem. As a child-friendly city should be friendly to all, public infrastructure can be a good indicator of how well the city is tailored for children as well. The following maps give us insight into the level of child-friendliness of infrastructure in Copenhagen, and it seems that, despites the challenges outlined above, it stands up to the test!