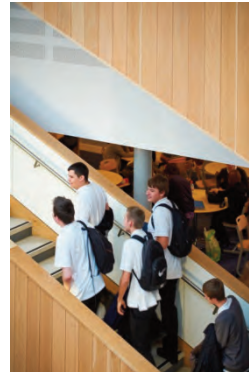


As part of the successful Balfour Beatty bid for Hertfordshire Building Schools for the Future, this new build school facilitates the colocation of Marriotts School, an eight form entry mainstream secondary school, with Lonsdale School; a special school and a residential facility for pupils with a wide range of physical and neurological impairments.

Developed in consultation with staff and pupils from both schools, our innovative design maximises the opportunities for the two schools to work together in order to develop a fully integrated learning community, whilst continuing to build on the success of their individual schools.

At the heart of the colocation is the Hub, an inspiring and stimulating learning environment that is accessible to all, accommodating learning resources for both schools. Careful planning allows each school to retain its unique small school ethos, ensuring that vulnerable pupils feel safe and secure in the context of a larger school and that their specific needs are met.





Total Area : 20,500m²
Procurement Type : BSF PFI
Local Authority : Hertfordshire County Council

Located on the first floor, residential accommodation for Lonsdale pupils benefits from access to a rich mix of facilities that extend the learning experience. A new sports hub provides both schools with an exciting opportunity to build on their already successful sports and performing arts partnerships.

The design creates a long life, loose-fit environment that can evolve with the schools, both on a day-to-day basis in the short term, and further into the future in the longer term, providing flexibility and adaptability throughout. The building is punctuated with a series of different sized courtyards which not only provide good levels of daylight and ventilation into the deep plan building, but also create range of external shared learning and social spaces which help to nurture the evolving integration of the two schools.

As part of the overall bid, ArchitecturePLB worked closely with Balfour Beatty to develop a sustainable, standardised construction approach to provide cost-effective, high quality, flexible and adaptable teaching spaces. This contributes to the low energy design, achieving a BREEAM rating of Very Good.

The pupils love the new environment with space and light. The staff love the new environment with excellent resources for moving and handling and teaching and learning. As a result the pupils are thriving and, I am sure you agree, that end of year reports show how much the pupils are learning and developing.

Maria White
Headteacher
Lonsdale School Newsletter July 2013

