

Shoreham Academy is one of four schools ArchitecturePLB developed as part of the larger West Sussex Academies programme. It is also one of two to be sponsored by the United Learning Trust and is therefore a designated Christian Academy, although it provides free education for pupils of all faiths and none.

The entrance to the Academy is set back from the main street, providing breathing space and a community accessible entrance plaza which is clearly visible when approaching from the east.

The ethos of the 'extended school' has been embraced in the design, and has proved central to the layout of the new Academy. The spaces to be used by the community are located at the front of the Academy on the east side, with the teaching wings which contain the individual schools located around a three storey central atrium, fanning out to the west and south.

The performing arts and associated spaces such as toilets and refreshment areas, have been grouped and located at the main entrance, with the sports facilities located opposite the entrance, allowing for ease of access outside of school hours.

This whole section of the Academy can be clearly segregated from the rest of the building, thus allowing it to open safely out of hours without compromising the security of the site.

The envelope of the building has been designed to provide resistance to solar heat gain, however the desire to provide as many naturally-ventilated teaching spaces as possible has been tempered by the acoustic issues associated with the proximity to the A270. The mass of the building is a mix of two and three storeys, ensuring that the local two storey residential dwellings are not overwhelmed by the new Academy.



01 Interior of entrance plaza  
02 Three-storey atrium  
03 Main entrance