



Award Category: Project of the Year sponsored by the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Project: Hertford Regional College - Ware Campus (Phase 2)
Ware

Client: Hertford Regional College

Project Team: Bond Bryan Architects, Turner & Townsend, Mott MacDonald, Farrans



This scheme is the final phase in the redevelopment of the Ware Campus, creating a high quality facility, sensitively designed around a new landscaped courtyard.

The new three storey, double aspect, building provides 3,600 sq. m of high quality teaching and learning space, primarily for the Creative Arts and Industries. The creation of a building that brings together creative disciplines and encourages collaboration and cross fertilization of ideas is at the core of the design approach.

The building is modern yet contextually sensitive, at the eastern end of the main wing, the ridgeline steps down to reduce the scale and massing and link with the more domestic scale of the College's historic Grade II* Listed Building Amwell House.

A simple palette of brick and render with a standing seam roof complement the existing campus buildings, helping them to appear as cohesive development.

At the heart of the building a double height gallery space with glazed curtain walling fronts

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onto the courtyard, creating a high quality flexible space to showcase students' work and host internal and external events. Radiating from the gallery is a wide range of specialist teaching and learning rooms, as well as incidental spaces that provide opportunities for informal meetings and collaboration. The internal spaces are naturally ventilated and roof lights create light and airy studio spaces, exposed concrete adds to a rich mix of internal finishes.

Judges comments:

"We were most impressed by the consistency and continuity of the design of this campus, its new courtyard and Creative Arts building. For young people it seemed to be a wonderful place to learn, providing institutional comfort, gallery space, with great transparency and verve in the treatment of the teaching spaces. An excellent backdrop for the visual arts. This exceptional building is the final piece of the College strategy. The students love it."