



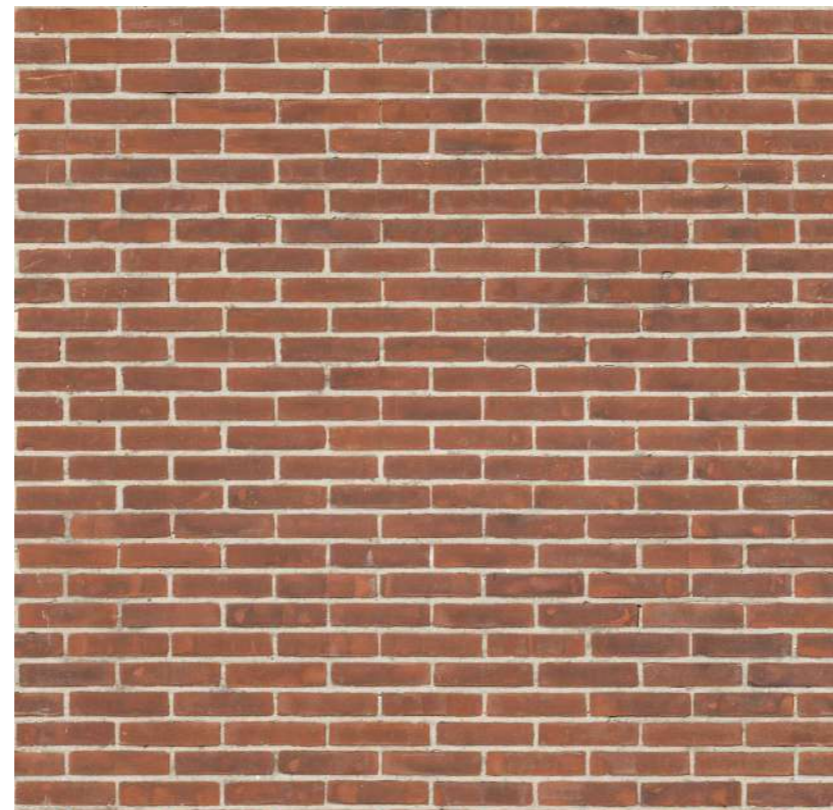
5.08 - Precedent study for timber louvres for attic extension - Abingdon School by Ridge and Partners LLP



5.09 - Guildford County art block. Precedent study for the music block, for use of colours to create an interesting elevation.



5.10. Proposed timber cladding



5.11. Proposed red brick to tie in with existing buildings

Design and Materials

5.07 The existing school site features a number of buildings with varying architectural styles and ages. The dominant material is red brick, with areas of timber cladding and grey coloured cladding panels to more recent buildings. Rooves are a mixture of red clay tiles, profiled grey roof panels and areas of light grey flat roofing. Windows and external doors are generally white or dark grey. Use of the same palette of materials on the proposed projects will help to tie the developments together, despite touches of contemporary design which may contrast with older buildings on the site.

5.08 Each area of development has it's own unique identity and character which reflects it's use and location on the school campus.

- The attic conversion and courtyard infill have been designed to offer a contemporary update to the main courtyard and soften the predominantly brick façades with a timber cladding and timber brise soleil solution. This also meets the structural constraint to minimise weight for the new infill. Roofs are proposed as shallow pitched grey metal, keeping them below the existing ridge line.
- The proposed extended lift shaft is clad in light grey panels, to ensure this is subservient to the main elevations.
- The sixth form extension uses a red brick plinth with a column structure following the architectural rhythm of B block. Above this, a mix of brick, timber cladding and timber brise soleil balances the sports centre design of the opposite side of Cobbett block while giving an attractive and contemporary addition to the street scene. The pitched roof form follows the geometry of B block. The triple height foyer space is proposed as a timber and glass element with a flat roof to provide a visual break between B block and Cobbett and to reflect the open volume within,
- The proposed music block draws precedent from the nearby art block with timber cladding, vertical feature windows, grey metal roof cladding and grey windows. Red brick at the lower level creates a link to the adjacent sports hall and suits the partial buried solution. The design references the use of colour to create interesting, creative elevations. It also adds its own new element in the form of the glazed double height foyer space, which is used to highlight the building's entrance from different directions.



5.12. Proposed sketch-up images - new developments aerial view

Sustainability and Energy

5.09 Throughout the design process, due consideration has been given to the need for new developments to be energy and water efficient, to make efficient use of materials and to consider the use of low carbon and renewable energy sources.

5.10 The application is accompanied by a sustainability statement, prepared by Mesh Energy which provides further information. As a summary, key strategies include;

- New projects designed within a framework of long term carbon reduction.
- Use of and conversion of existing buildings, to limit extents of new building work, reducing use of new materials and embodied carbon.
- Holistic review of existing blocks to be extended, to maximise potential to upgrade and improve sustainability alongside new works.
- Wherever possible spaces have been provided with dual aspect, to promote good natural ventilation and daylighting. This particular includes larger spaces such as the new sixth form study areas and common rooms and the recital studio and first floor music classroom to the new music block.
- Provision of timber louvres to the attic conversion and sixth form infill to provide shading to large areas of glazing

5.11 As the scheme progresses into detailed design, the following measures will be considered;

- Specification of demanding wall, floor and roof U-Values
- Specification of high performance double or triple glazing
- Adoption of construction detailing to minimise thermal bridging
- High levels of air-tightness
- Use of high efficiency heating systems
- Use of low temperature circulation systems
- Programmable thermostats
- Consideration of low carbon and renewable energy sources such as ground or air source heat pumps and solar panels.
- Specification of water efficient fixtures and fittings.
- Tap flow rates with appropriate controls
- Specification of energy efficient lighting including appropriate controls on an external lighting to switch off automatically when not required.
- Recycling in both construction and operational phases
- Specification of materials from responsible sources.

ASHPs

5.12 As discussed within the accompanying energy statement by Mesh Energy, new air source heat pumps are proposed to support the new developments. Locations of these can be seen on the proposed floor plans and include an area adjacent to the new music block and to the roof of the new sixth form extension.

5.13 Proposed locations have been chosen based on required maximum distances from plant rooms and with due consideration to any potential visual impacts. Acoustic screening is to be provided, to mitigate against any visual or acoustic impact.



5.13. Proposed sketch-up images - new sixth form extension

Highways and Parking

5.14 The application is accompanied by a full transport assessment and strategy for the site. Please refer to the separate report prepared by Motion for further information.

5.15 Existing access to the school site is from Farnham Road. There are two access points - one to the north-east provides access into the main car parking areas and is controlled by a barrier. An access further to the west provides access to the other end of the campus and a limited number of spaces. The access points will remain unchanged as part of these proposals.

5.16 There is no increase in pupil numbers associated with the development. Existing car parking numbers will not change. New covered cycle parking is to be provided, which will be an improvement on current conditions.

Flood Risk

5.17 The application is accompanied by a comprehensive flood risk report and SuDS strategy for the site, which includes the three new proposed areas of development. Please refer to the separate report prepared by Motion for further information.

Impact on Residential Amenity

5.18 The music block has been carefully designed to limit impacts on residential amenity, including measures to eliminate overlooking, overshadowing or loss of privacy. A key feature in this has been limiting the building height to two storeys and a reduction in eaves heights along this boundary. The plan form has been stepped in at first floor level, to increase the separation distance to nearby gardens and to limit visual impact to these dwellings.

5.19 As mentioned previously, no windows are located facing the residential units with a small single rooflight on this elevation. The choice of timber at first floor level helps to soften the appearance of the building and is in keeping with the current outlook from houses towards to art block.

5.20 The proposed sixth form block is located adjacent to the Farnham Road site boundary and does not overlook any nearby residential dwellings. The attic conversion is located in the centre of the site and similarly it is not envisaged that this will have any impact on privacy or overlooking to nearby residences. New small dormer windows to the rear are set further back than the existing large first floor windows which already face neighbouring properties.

Trees and Biodiversity

5.21 There is considered to be no adverse impact on trees, ecology or biodiversity as a result of these proposals. The new sixth form extension and proposed music block both provide opportunities for new areas of external landscaping, which gives potential for new soft planting. This may have benefits to biodiversity.



6.01. Proposed sketch-up images - overall site proposals

6.0 Access statement



6.02. Proposed sketch-up images - proposed new courtyard infill and attic conversion

6.01 The requirements of Building Regulations Part M reflect the notion that a person's abilities are not un-dimensional and change over time and with family and personal circumstances. The aim is to make buildings accessible to, and usable by, everyone including people with disabilities.

6.02 It advises that an Access Statement should be provided at the start of, and during the building control process, and should accompany deposited plans. This should help building control bodies to make a judgment on whether building development proposals make "reasonable provision" for access.

6.03 To address the Equalities Act 2010 consideration should be given at the detailed design stage to ensuring disabled people are able to carry out normal day to day activities. The design philosophy is to reduce social exclusion and make the scheme accessible for people with all forms of disability, including people with sensory disabilities. The development addresses these issues and will therefore accord with the Equality Act.

6.04 New entrances will all have level thresholds and interior spaces have been designed to allow access for all. Simple circulation and views out aid orientation.

6.05 Completion of the new lift to A block will provide access to the new attic conversion as well as a significant improvement in accessibility to the existing teaching wings.

6.06 The new music block has no unique accommodation at first floor. School management can ensure that anyone with access needs will be timetabled to the music classroom, practice rooms and recital studio at the ground floor level.



7.01 Proposed sketch-up images - proposed music block

7.0 Conclusion



7.02 & 7.03. Views of proposed new sixth form extension (above) and new music block (below)

7.01 The proposed developments at Guildford County School will improve the educational facilities for existing pupils to address current shortfalls against BB103 recommended standards. The proposals are the latest phase in a long term investment strategy to ensure this successful school continues to flourish and offer the best possible education for local young people.

7.02 The site appraisal has provided an understanding of the key criteria and context from which a creative and robust proposal has been developed. Key features:

- The proposals have been developed in response to a thorough masterplan and consultation process, which responded to key challenges on the site and the school's vision to deliver a high quality and inspiring school campus.
- The attic extension will provide improved learning support spaces to support vulnerable pupils and also meet a high priority need to upgrade the size of general teaching classrooms
- The sixth form extension will address the needs of the thriving existing sixth form providing improved study, support and social spaces for students.
- The new proposed new music block addresses the current shortfall in provision and will provide engaging new spaces allowing for a wider participation in music.
- The proposals have been developed to make use of existing underdeveloped areas and to minimise impacts on nearby residential dwellings. The new music block has been carefully designed to sensitively address the neighbouring properties and avoid any loss of privacy.
- The buildings have been designed to draw influence from existing materials on the site, whilst also utilising elements of contemporary design to create exciting new spaces around the campus.
- The application is supported by a range of reports prepared by consultants in the fields of flood risk, transport and sustainability.
- Further improves a school which is already judged outstanding and offers a centre of excellence for secondary education.
- Together the proposals offer a holistic scheme with targeted benefits for the whole school community building on the successful estate strategy over the past ten years.

Lytle Associates
ARCHITECTS

The Fountain Head
Quarry Street
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 3UY