

ABW
architects

EDUCATION



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ABW

architects

Hello we're ABW Architects.

Our company is all about time well spent and attention to detail. Our architecture is simple, intuitive and human. In other words, the kind of architecture we want for ourselves.

ABW's experience of improving educational environments through careful consideration of interventions at varying scales has been developed over three decades of learning.

The projects presented in this document range from high level campus master planning and future proofing, to micro scale renovation works to existing facilities. These proposals reflect ever changing requirements.

The fabric of a successful masterplan is held together by simple, yet thoughtful building designs. The aim is to bring together a wide body of students, staff, and visitors.

Human scale, movement and deliberate interaction is a constant theme created by the spaces that ABW design. These themes, accompanied by specific client requirements, form the ingredients to a number of successful projects.



EDGE HILL UNIVERSITY MASTERPLAN

REMODELLING AND REPLANNING THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

To date, ABW has delivered ten new major projects as part of a long term adaptable masterplan, in two phases for a rapidly evolving University. The campus is designed for 20 years of development with clear but flexible principles, quality of spaces, legibility of route, integration of sustainable principles and establishing a sense of place, which is key to the strategy.

The ten new academic buildings delivered by ABW at Edge Hill includes a student hub, extensive

sports facilities, technology hub and living accommodation for over 1000 students. The surrounding landscape has been developed alongside the masterplan. The developments include two new lakes, which create new ecology and manage water across the University's campus.

New teaching buildings are proposed with a form that takes advantage of the sloping landscape, capturing views and light across the biodiverse valley.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

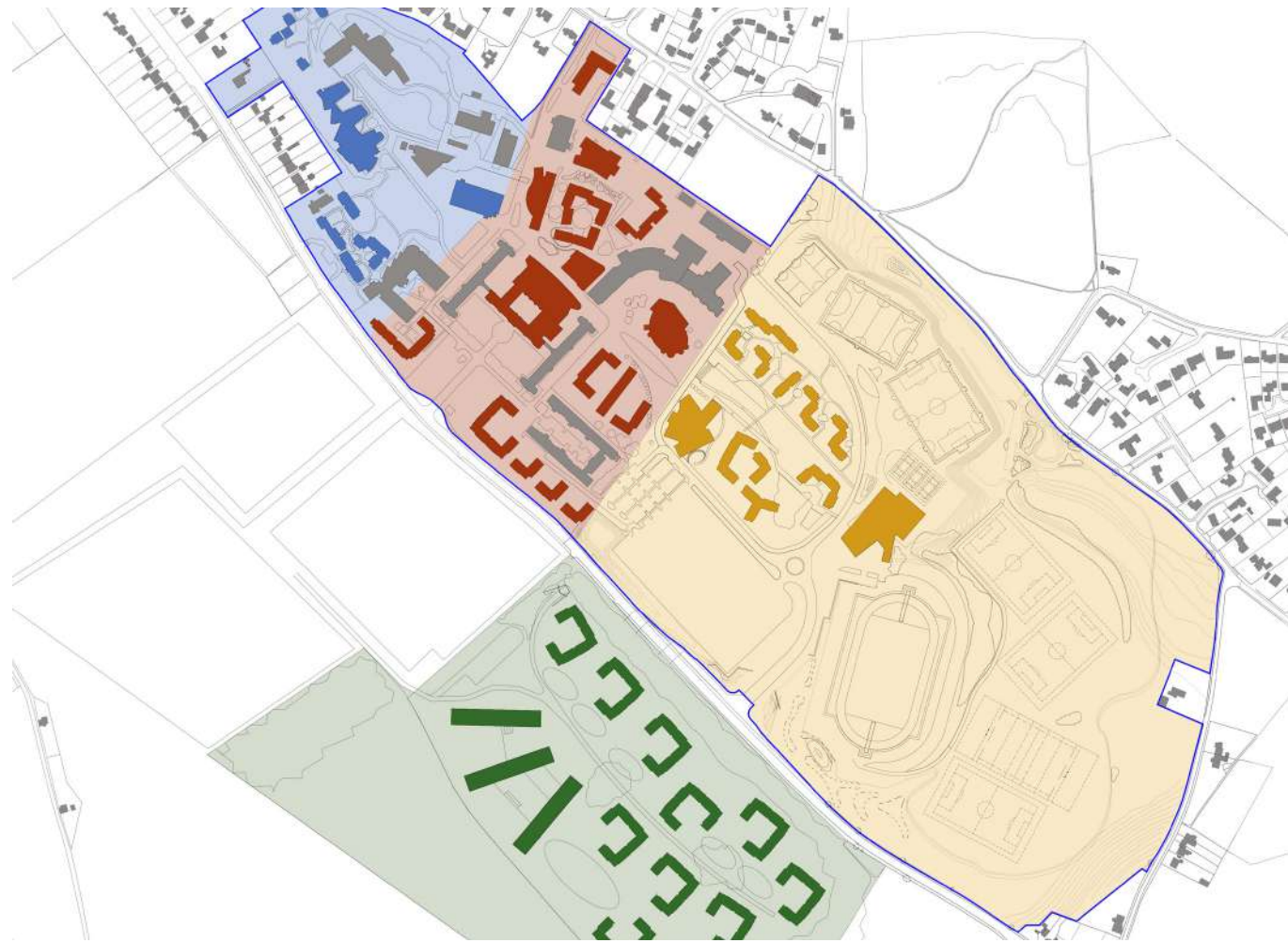
YEAR:
Ongoing

SCOPE:
Masterplan - New Build, Extension and Internal Refurbishment

AWARDS:
1st in University of the Year Educate North Awards 2020/21
3rd in What Uni Student Choice Awards for Facilities 2023



Edge Hill University Central Campus Concept



Edge Hill University Masterplan Overview

- ORIGINAL UNIVERSITY BUILDING
- EXISTING BUILDINGS
- WESTERN CAMPUS
Faculty of Health, Student Residence
- EASTERN CAMPUS
Sports Centre, Creative Edge,
Student Residence
- NORTHERN CAMPUS
The Hub, Student Union, Student
Residence, Business School, Tech
Hub, The Catalyst
- FUTURE MASTERPLAN
Teaching Buildings, Student
Accommodation



Edge Hill University Masterplan Model





THE CATALYST LIBRARY

CENTRAL CAMPUS LIBRARY AND STUDENT INFORMATION NODE

Opened in time for the new academic year 2018, the Catalyst at Edge Hill University provides a space for both student services and study facilities under one roof, creating a central hub of information, learning and advice on campus.

Each floor reflects the increasingly independent level of study as you travel up through the light filled atrium, creating a variety of different study spaces suited to the constantly expanding student population.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

YEAR:
July 2018

SCOPE:
New Build



The Catalyst Library



EHL Library

- International Management Programme
- HR & Faculty Services
- Business Support Services
- International Faculty Offices 1-5
- Library Office
- Library Services 1-5
- All Facilities
- Printing Area
- Specialist for IP/MS
- CHD Office
- Research Services
- Event Space
- Centralized Classified
- Library Collection
- Collection Care Room
- Specialist Collection
- Treatment Room
- Archives
- C.N.E.S.
- I.C.S. Services
- Building B.1
- B.S. Services
- Humanities C.C.R.E.
- U.C. Administration
- Facilities Administration

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BURNLEY COLLEGE MASTERPLAN

PLANNING AND DEVELOPING THE COLLEGE CAMPUS MASTERPLAN

ABW's masterplan for Burnley College Campus reviews the potential of the existing campus, as well as identifying a development strategy for structured future expansion, and taking advantage of opportunities offered by the site.

Burnley College benefits from having green campus, with buildings overlooking a lake and new sports facilities in a park setting. Its green campus is integrated in the surrounding countryside and ecosystem.

Phase 1:
Implementation of the first phases of the masterplan with the construction of a new teaching building and extensions to existing sports facilities.

Phase 2:
Design and planning submission for a campus extension to accommodate future development in a green and ecologically diverse environment for learning, that will also benefit the wider community.

CLIENT:
Burnley College

YEAR:
Ongoing

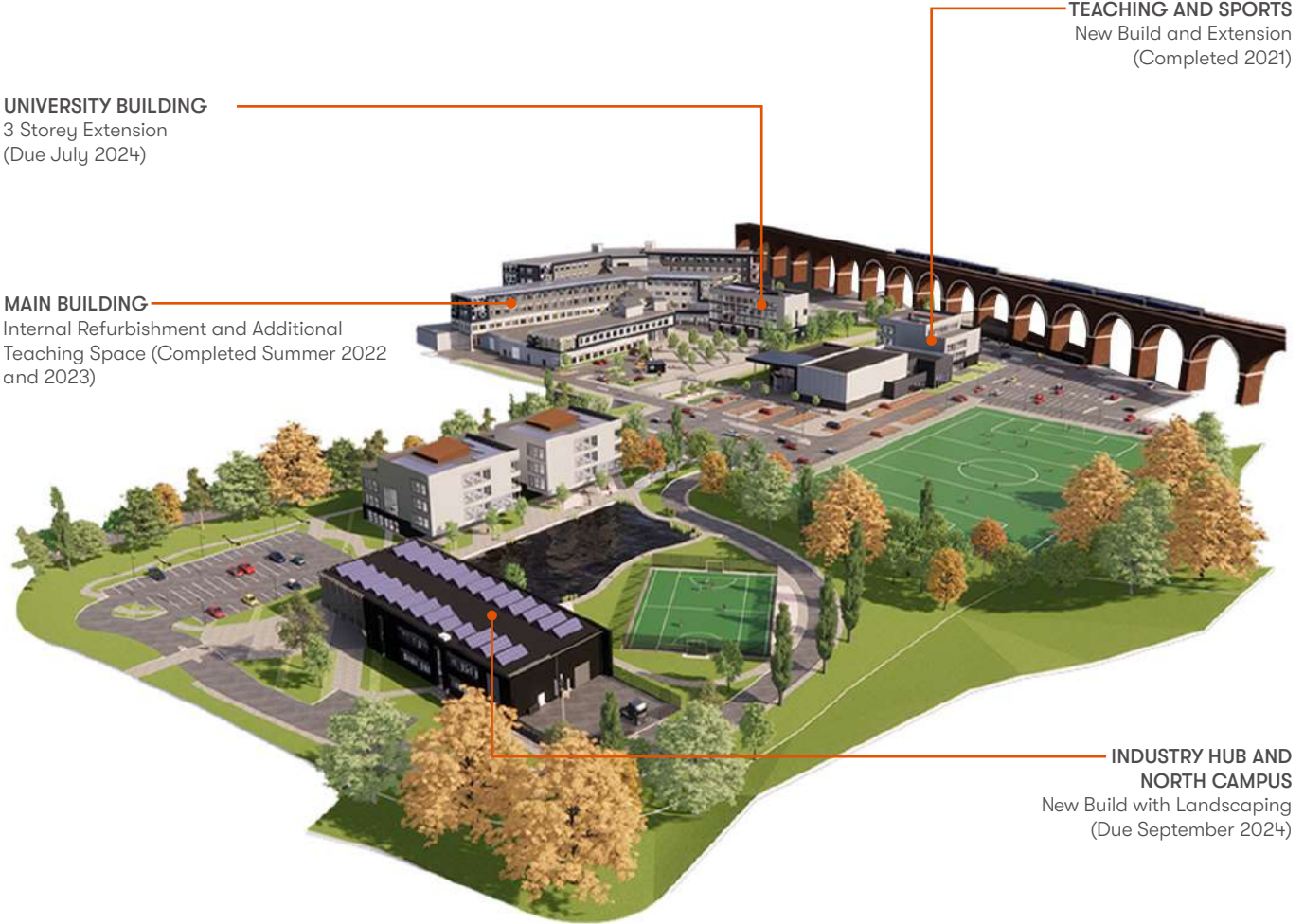
SCOPE:
Masterplan - New Build, Extension and Internal Refurbishment

UNIVERSITY BUILDING
3 Storey Extension
(Due July 2024)

MAIN BUILDING
Internal Refurbishment and Additional Teaching Space (Completed Summer 2022 and 2023)

TEACHING AND SPORTS
New Build and Extension
(Completed 2021)

INDUSTRY HUB AND NORTH CAMPUS
New Build with Landscaping
(Due September 2024)





Burnley College Campus Concept



Burnley College Teaching and Sports



INDUSTRY HUB

LANDMARK NEW BUILDING TO TEACH TIMBER MANUFACTURING

Increased demand for T-Level enrolment places has led Burnley College to commission a new teaching building with both classroom and workshop based learning.

The two storey structure resides in a new area of the college campus to the north of the main building. The proposal will be surrounded by a sensitively design green space, an all-weather sports pitch, a biodiverse lake and associated hard landscaping and street furniture.

The building itself is specifically designed to house specialist timber manufacturing equipment as well as IT suites, classrooms and breakout space.

CLIENT:
Burnley College

YEAR:
Due September 2024

SCOPE:
New Build



Burnley College Industry Hub and North Campus CGI



INDUSTRY
HUB

HubGrub



SCARISBRICK HALL SCHOOL MASTERPLAN

**SUSTAINABLE GRADE I LISTED
BUILDING MASTERPLAN**

Scarisbrick Hall is perhaps one of the most important domestic buildings in England, and the product of three generations of the Pugin family of architects.

ABW's involvement was initially to develop a masterplan that demonstrated how the school facilities could be developed, without harming the setting of the Grade I Listed hall.

The masterplan was developed in conjunction with a heritage

consultant, to reach agreement in principle with Historic England.

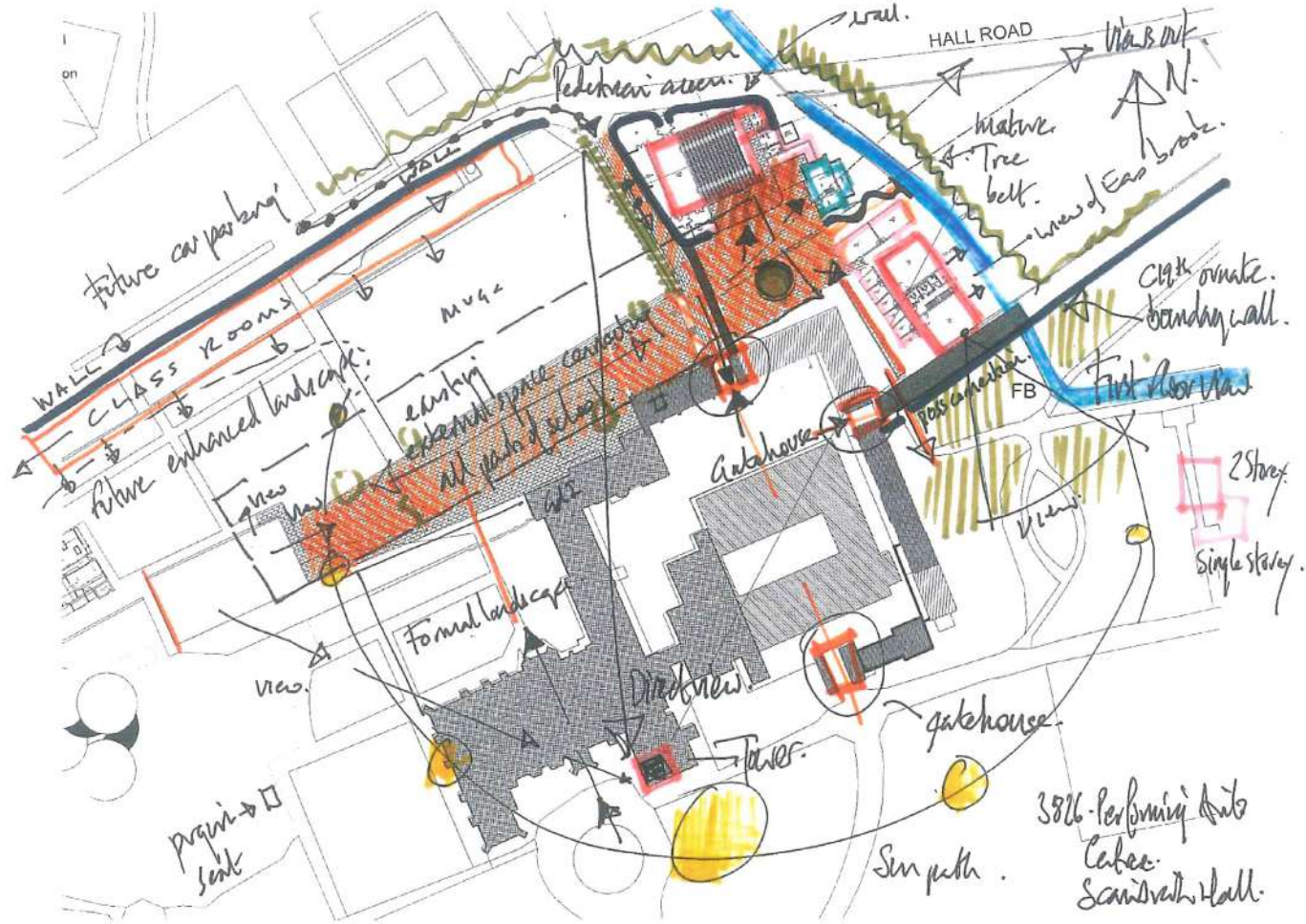
The stages of the masterplan involved the implementation of a nursery school, followed by a performing arts centre. The latter consisting of a teaching building and a separate 300 seat auditorium.

ABW are currently developing future phases that will include a new lower school, boarding houses and sports facilities.

CLIENT:
Scarisbrick Hall School

YEAR:
Ongoing

SCOPE:
Masterplan - New Build and Internal Refurbishment



Scarisbrick Hall School Masterplan Overview



PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

PERFORMING ARTS FACILITIES IN NEW AND LISTED BUILDINGS

ABW were appointed by Scarisbrick Hall School to design new performing arts facilities.

The site presents interesting challenges given the significant historical context. The school itself is a Grade I Listed building designed by Augustin Pugin (architect of the Palace of Westminster).

The location for the completed project included a historic gas works which was incorporated into the scheme, alongside new structures.

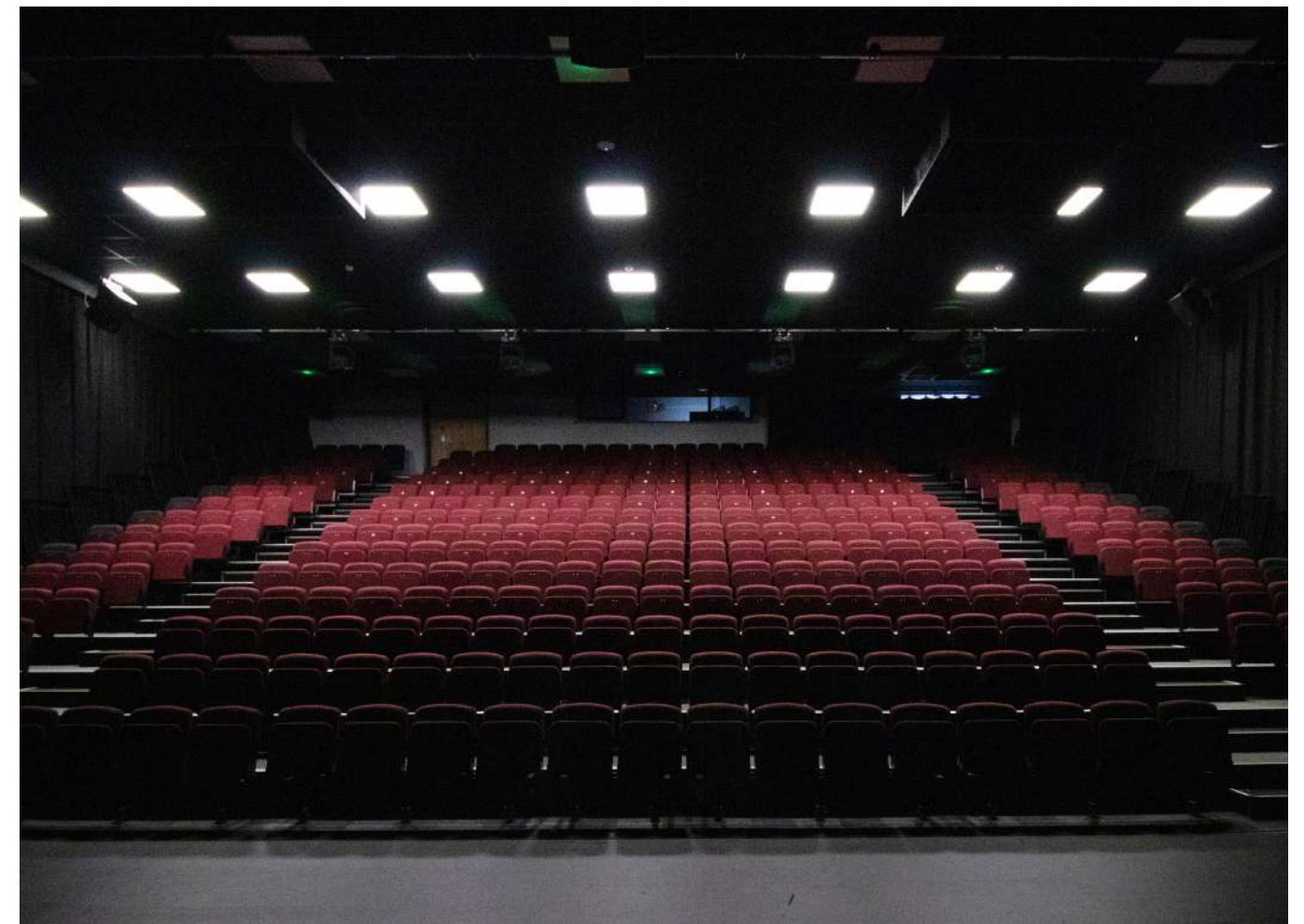
The Oak Studios site consists of a number of purpose designed performing arts facilities including dance studios, theory rooms, 300 seat auditorium and associated infrastructure spaces.

Alongside the new build elements sits the revitalised Gasworks. The formerly dilapidated structure has been given new life as a catered assembly area for visitors, parents, staff and students.

CLIENT:
Scarisbrick Hall School

YEAR:
September 2023

SCOPE:
Masterplan - New Build and Internal Refurbishment



Performing Arts Centre Auditorium



Oak Studios



The Gasworks Renovation



OAK
RIDGE



CREATIVE EDGE MEDIA

SPECIALIST BUILDING FOR HIGH TECH MEDIA TEACHING

Completed in 2014, Creative Edge is a state of the art new build structure, housing high-specification suites of facilities for media, Animation, film, advertising and computing students.

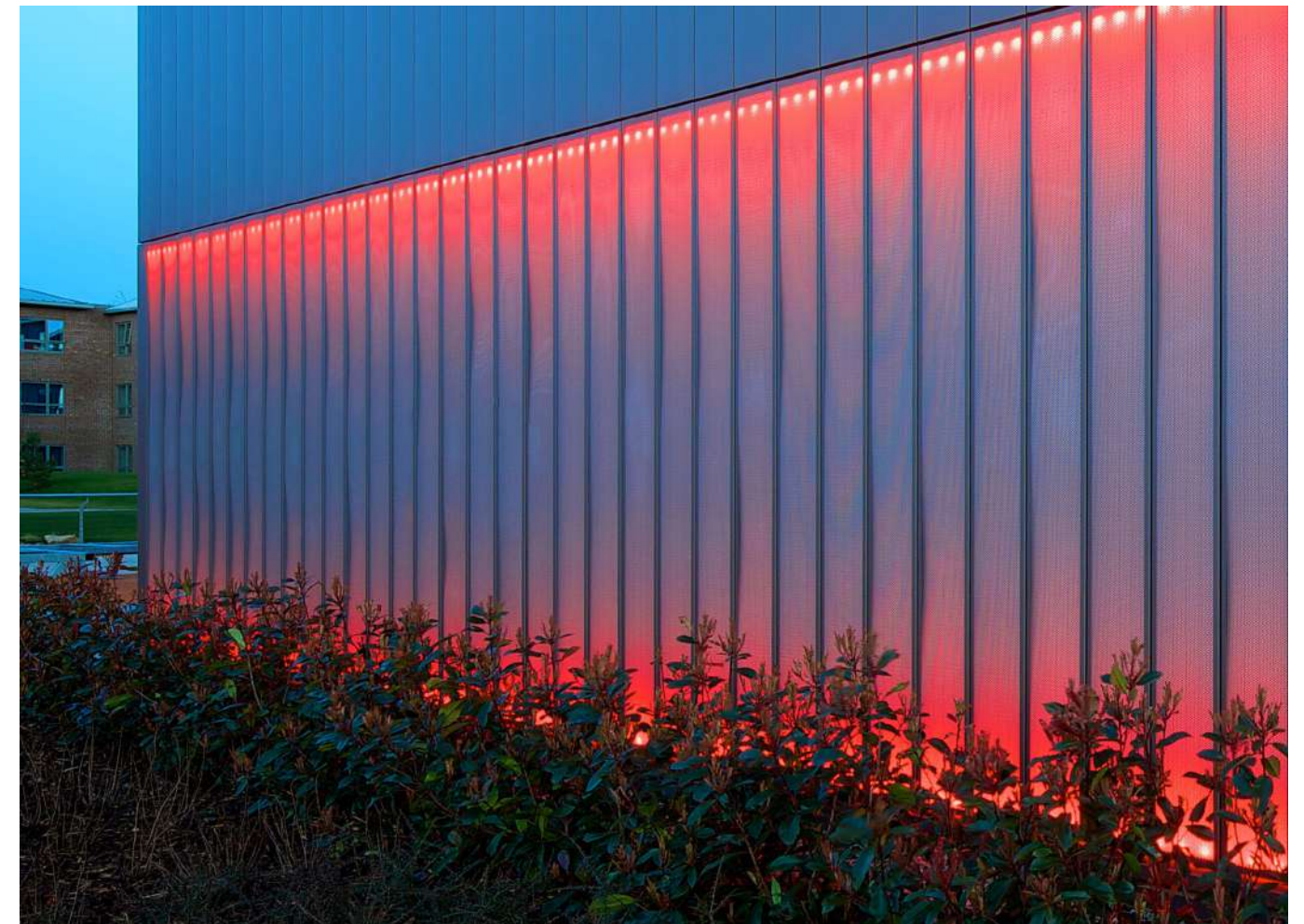
Features include TV studios with broadcasting and full production capabilities, sound-editing suites, recording studios, a radio studio, animation studios, photography studio, multimedia laboratory and networking, forensic and computer laboratories. These spaces are all served by a triple height atrium.

The new facilities provide space for teaching, research and collaboration with industry partners.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

YEAR:
September 2014

SCOPE:
New Build



Creative Edge Media Perforated and Illuminated External Cladding







LIFE SCIENCES FACULTY

LIFE SCIENCES FACULTY LABORATORIES AND TEACHING

Land towards the north edge of the Edge Hill campus is being given new life with the construction of a Life Sciences Faculty.

The three storey building comprises high specification laboratories, teaching spaces, office areas and a roof terrace that looks across the campus.

Natural pigmented zinc cladding, prominent architectural forms and glulam timber structural elements provide a welcoming and intriguing

space in which staff and students can develop.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

YEAR:
Due March 2024

SCOPE:
New Build



Life Sciences Concept Image





MANAGEMENT SCHOOL

NEW BUILD FACULTY BUILDING WITH HIGH LEVEL OF FINISH

Lancaster University Management School (LUMS) was completed in 2020 and is a prominent addition to the Lancaster University skyline.

The original brief and associated design was taken through the construction process by ABW working with the main contractor.

Lecture theatres are located on the ground floor, with academic offices and study spaces arranged on the five upper floors around the central void.

Carefully arranged breakout spaces allow the facility to breathe and flow when in use.

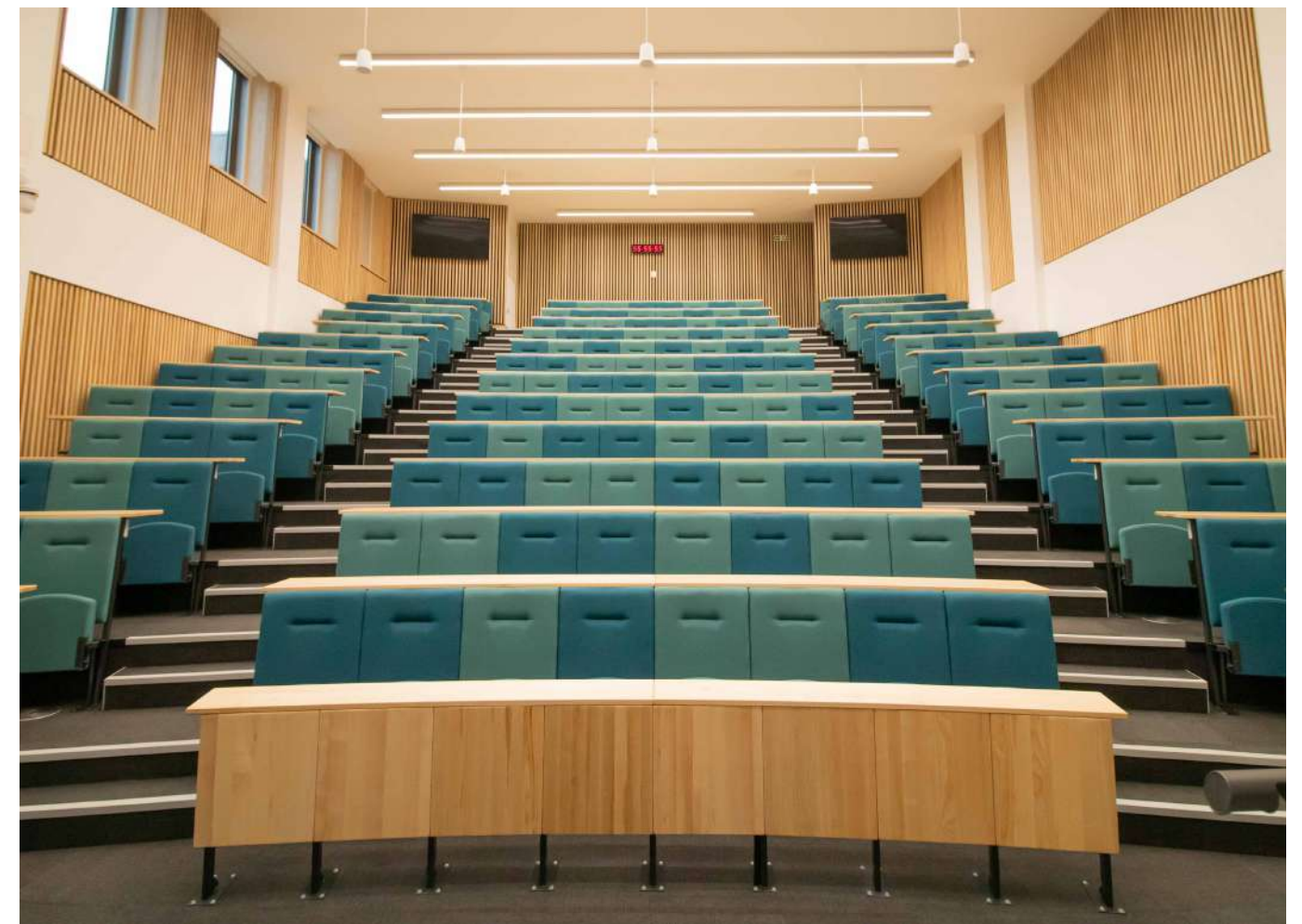
The top lit central space is the focal point of the building, which is animated by stairs, and overlooked by teaching spaces.

An exceptionally high level of finish was expected by the university and careful use of timber within the public areas successfully create a warm environment in which to develop.

CLIENT:
Lancaster University

YEAR:
December 2020

SCOPE:
Extension



Management School Lecture Theatre





management school

SOUTHPORT COLLEGE

UPGRADING OF EXISTING SIX STOREY BLOCK

ABW carried out major alterations to the 1980's teaching building, which suffered from poor environmental performance and lack of identity, despite its prominent location in the town centre. The work was designed and programmed to be carried out with minimal disruption to teaching.

The scope included new windows to replace poorly performing original windows, as well as thermal upgrades to the building's envelope. Another significant intervention included increasing the amount of glazing

to key areas to take advantage of long distance views over Morecambe Bay, particularly from the top floor restaurant.

The addition of colour to the facade gives the building a new identity as well as providing a notable landmark for students, staff, and visitors to gravitate towards.

CLIENT:
Southport College

YEAR:
September 2015

SCOPE:
Refurbishment



Southport College Rear Courtyard



Southport
College

Southport College
Fork
Scissors



CITY OF LIVERPOOL COLLEGE

INTERVENTIONS AND NEW IDEAS FOR EXISTING SPACES

The city centre campus consists of a series of buildings constructed in the 1990's distributed around Liverpool.

ABW carried out the redesign of entrance forms, as well as social and learning spaces to form places of a shared identity. This creates spaces that feel contemporary, offering areas for students to meet and study on site.

All schemes have been delivered during the summer break to avoid any impact on teaching.

CLIENT:
City of Liverpool College

YEAR:
June 2015 to Present

SCOPE:
Internal Refurbishment



Arts Centre Main Entrance



City of College Liverpool Restaurant



UNIVERSITY STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

AWARD WINNING CAMPUS BASED STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

As part of a complete campus modernisation, a sequence of new student accommodation blocks have been built over the past two decades.

Arranged in clusters around courtyards and surrounded by existing planting and water features, large windows give students a sense of place and peace while they reside on campus.

For second and third year students the concept of townhouses grouped

in numbers of 8 or 12 and arranged around a private courtyard, offers a peaceful living environment away from the busy campus thoroughfare.

To date, thirteen phases have been completed. The 2023 Uni Compare rankings placed Edge Hill University in 1st position for accommodation based on student reviews.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

YEAR:
September 2007 to Present

SCOPE:
New Build

AWARDS:
1st in Uni Compare Awards for Accommodation 2023



Shared Kitchen and Living Space







COLLEGE LIBRARY

RENOVATION TO A FORMER INDUSTRIAL BUILDING

A former industrial building for Beechams is given new life by St. Helens College as a library.

The original arrangement had very poor environmental conditions, limited daylight, limited learning space, and was an unattractive space to study.

ABW's objective was to create an inviting environment that would encourage students to base themselves on campus during the day for socialising, self learning

and group activities. The space was zoned to allow different types of learning activity to take place.

CLIENT:
St Helens College

YEAR:
February 2016

SCOPE:
Building Repurposing



College Library Structure and Internal Detailing



CENTRAL CAMPUS UNIVERSITY HUB

LARGE SCALE ADDITION TO THE ORIGINAL UNIVERSITY BUILDING

Edge Hill University was originally opened in 1885 as the first non-denominational teacher training college for women in England.

The original college building still stands on the Ormskirk campus and has since been surrounded by a number of innovative buildings and spaces.

ABW were commissioned to bring the original building into the twenty-first century with a significant intervention.

The new building consists of a number of bright spaces for meeting, studying and eating.

The glulam timber structure and simple ventilation strategy allow the building to cope with constantly changing seasons while monitoring energy usage closely.

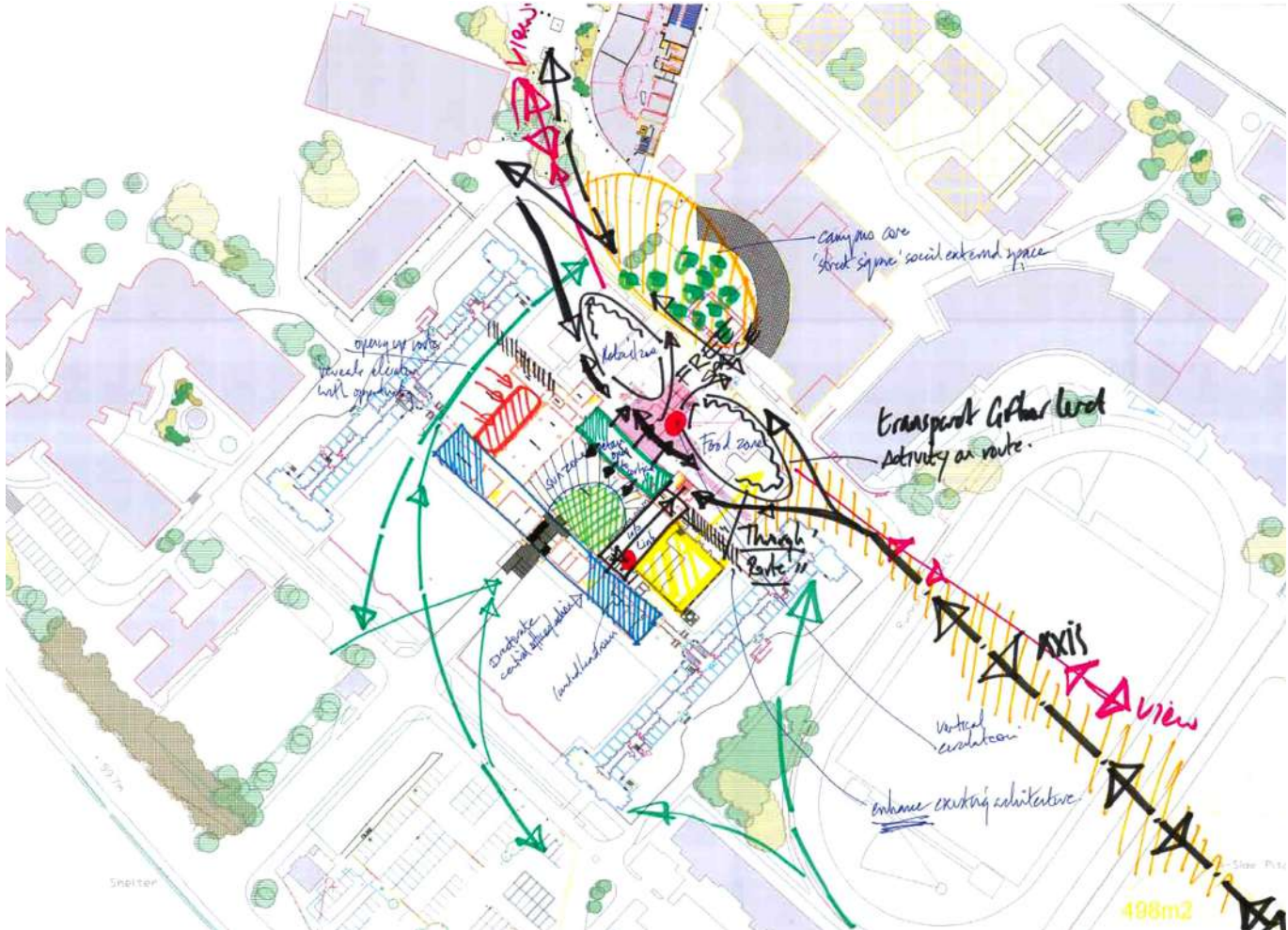
Distinctive natural copper cladding has weathered to leave a characterful patina to the facade, complemented by a feature orange stair.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

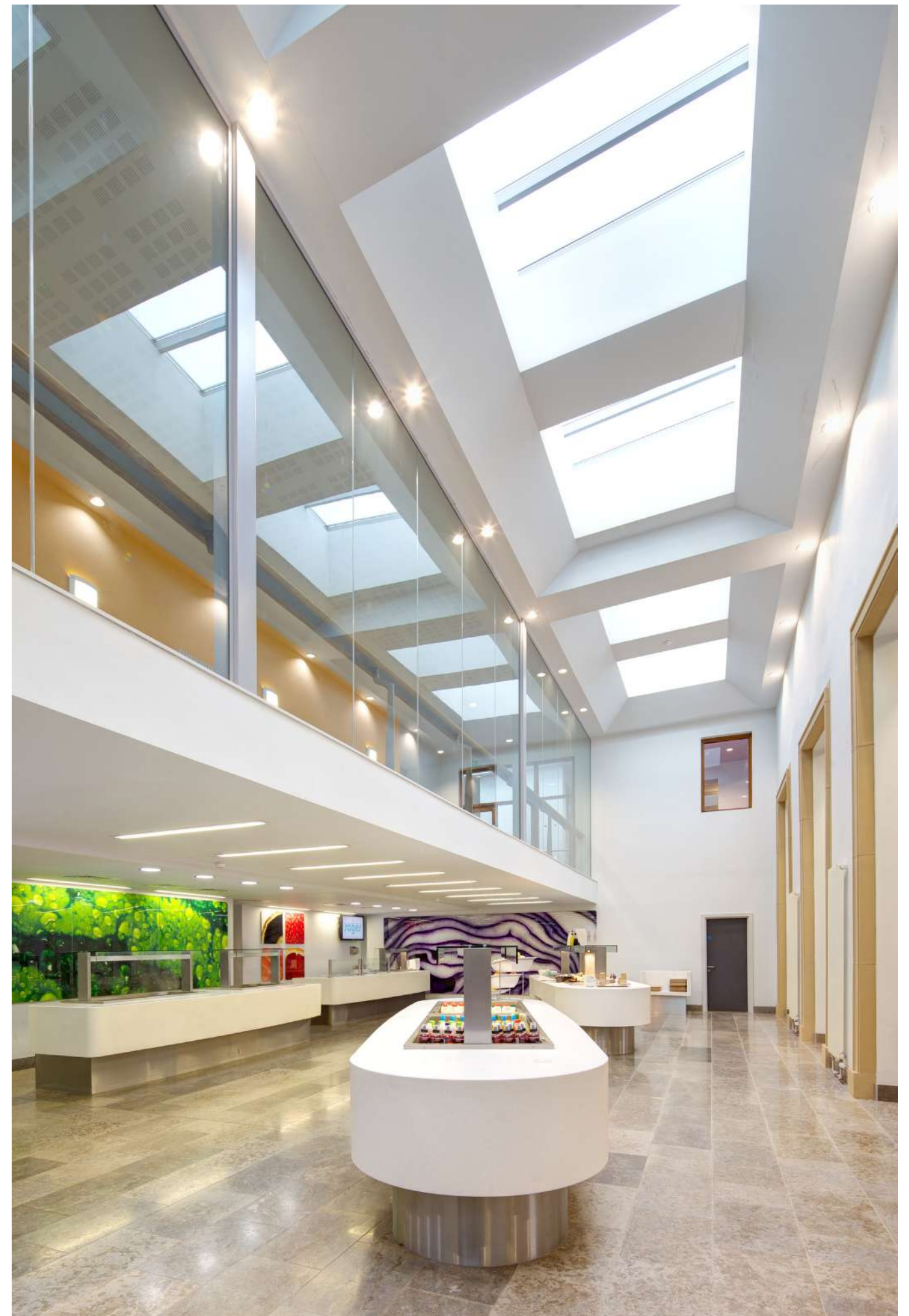
YEAR:
August 2015

SCOPE:
Extension and Internal Refurbishment

AWARDS:
3rd in What Uni Student Choice Awards for Facilities 2023



Central Campus University Hub Concept Diagram









LOGISTICS LEARNING CENTRE

CONVERSION OF AN EXISTING INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE

ABW were commissioned to transform an industrial building into a learning centre for logistics.

At the centre of the North West's logistics industry, the design revitalised an industrial unit into a training centre with replica warehousing and teaching spaces.

With an industry struggling to recruit, the bold scheme and modern feel was intended to attract young people to what is a heavily regulated industry.

CLIENT:
St Helens College

YEAR:
February 2017

SCOPE:
Building Repurposing



Logistics Learning Centre Main Entrance



LAW AND PSYCHOLOGY TEACHING CENTRE

REDESIGN OF AN EXISTING BUILDING FOR TEACHING SPACE

ABW transformed a dated library into a building for the faculties of Law and Psychology. The original three storey building was dark with confusing circulation, feeling very dated, when compared to recent University buildings.

The 4 month programme dictated that the transition needed to depend on a few confident moves to transform the building.

ABW moved the entrance to face a shared piazza and opened up the

central lightwells to bring light and air into the centre of the building.

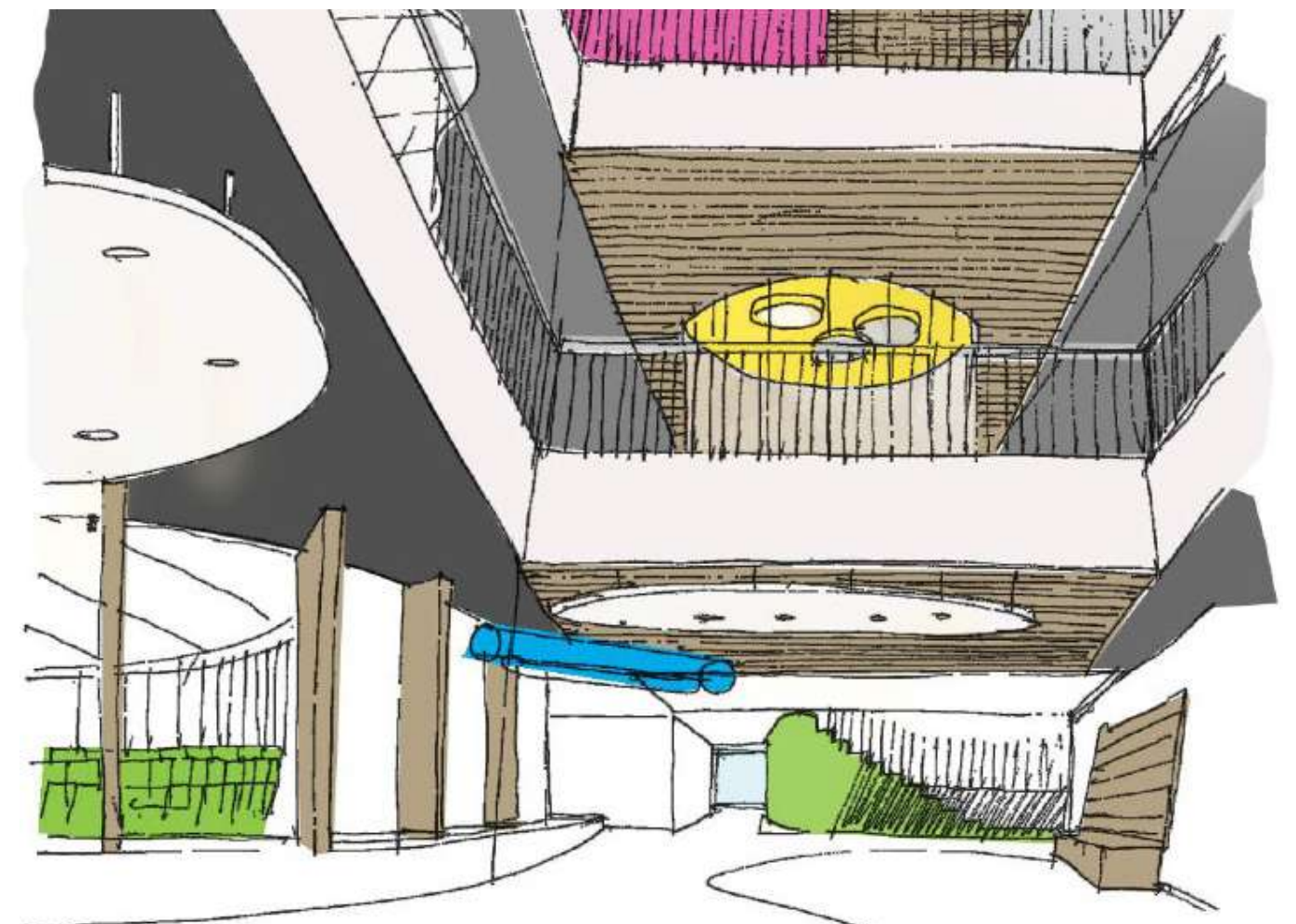
The circulation has been made legible and focused around two central lightwells, with a 300 seat lecture theatre inserted within the existing ground floor.

Academic and teaching spaces are arranged around the perimeter, with social learning spaces at the centre, overlooking circulation and lightwells. The result is a much more lively and interactive space.

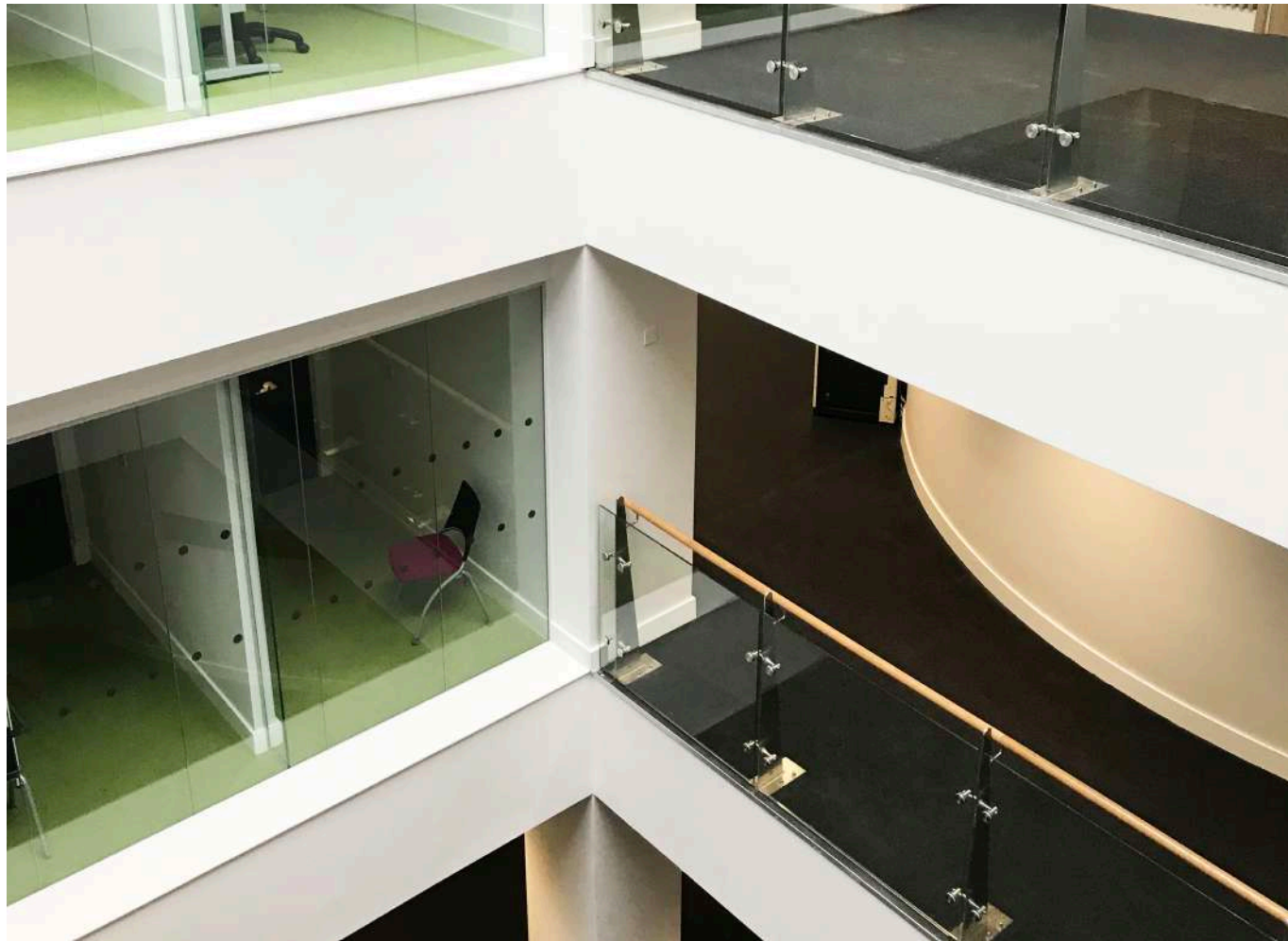
CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

YEAR:
July 2018

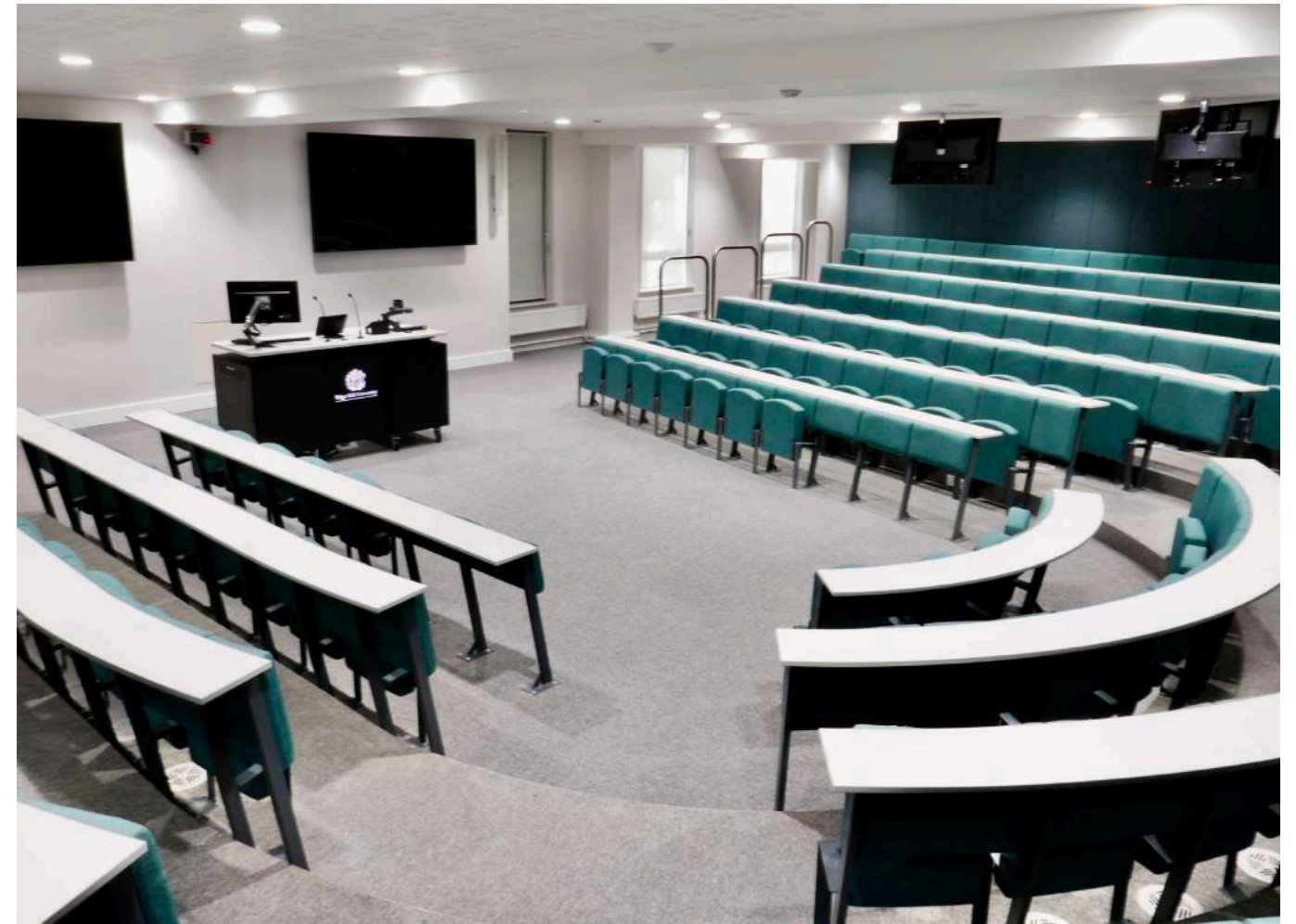
SCOPE:
Internal Refurbishment



Atrium Concept



Law and Psychology Atrium



Psychology Lecture Theatre





STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

REPURPOSING OF INDUSTRIAL SPACE TO ARTS COMPLEX

A former industrial building around a large anonymous courtyard was transformed into the University Arts campus with facilities for fine art, TV, music and games design.

ABW's design kept the best of the original buildings, but removed the accumulated additions that obscured the original form.

The legibility of the site and minor interventions create a series of entrances from the courtyard to form a unified campus. The result

creates a defined entrance while helping visitors and new members of the community find their way around.

The buildings were upgraded to meet the current environmental standards by improving air tightness and the overall thermal performance.

Honest materials and forms were expressed deliberately to provide identity and a sense of destination.

CLIENT:
Staffordshire University

YEAR:
August 2015

SCOPE:
Refurbishment



Arts Complex Main Entrance Facilities





TECH HUB

PURPOSE BUILT UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY TEACHING HUB

ABW developed and delivered proposals for a new Technology Hub at Edge Hill University. The building houses a variety of teaching spaces and specialist labs for computing and science courses.

The site sits at the edge of the University Campus within a Conservation area. Housing is located on either side with mature planting all around. Whilst at the periphery of the campus, the site overlooks an important route into the site that is heavily used by students.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

YEAR:
September 2016

SCOPE:
New Build

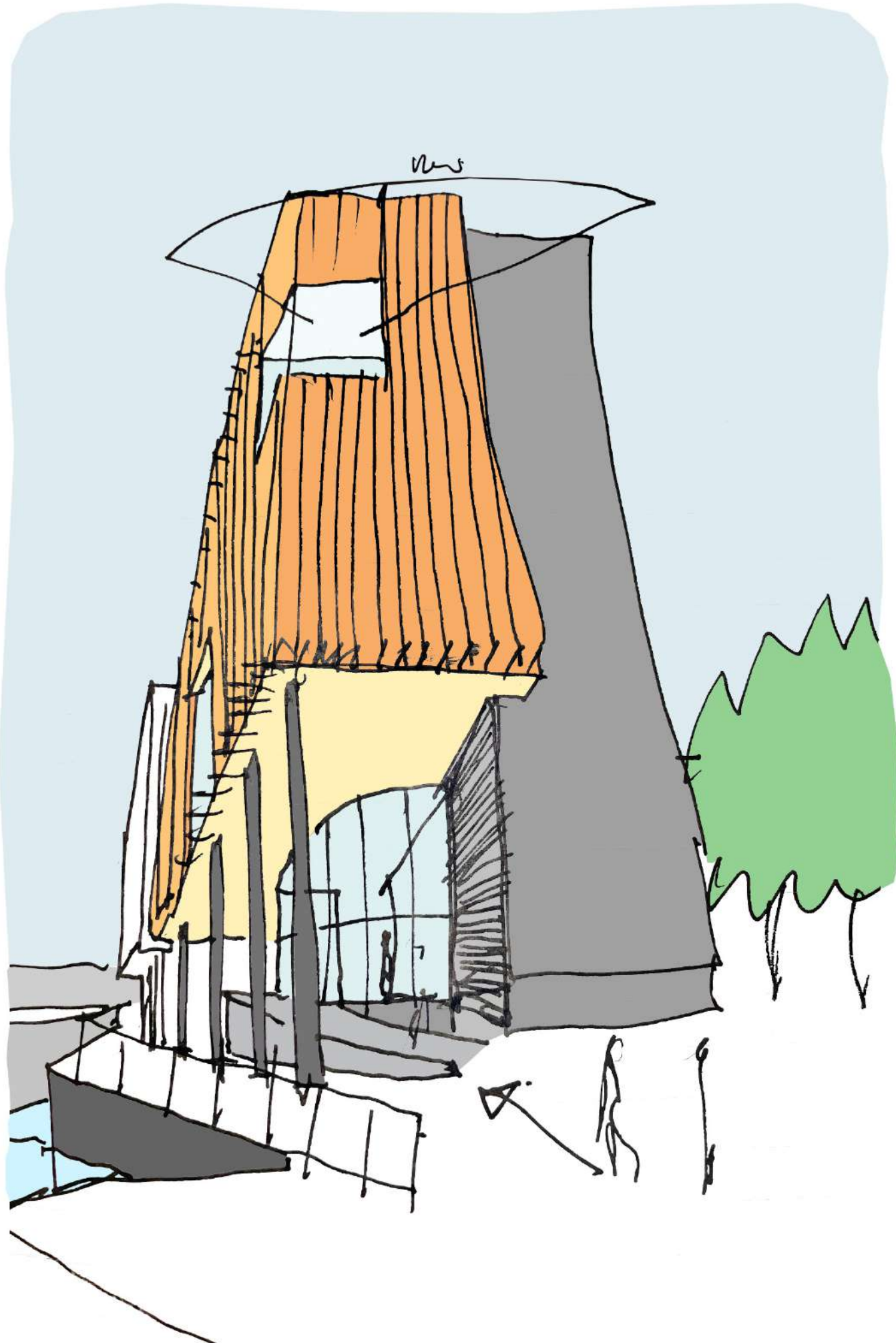
AWARDS:
3rd in What Uni Student Choice Awards for Facilities 2023



Tech Hub Computing and Science Laboratory



SIXTH FORM COLLEGE EXTENSION



TEACHING EXTENSION TO AN EXISTING COLLEGE BUILDING

To maximise enrolment, Rochdale Sixth Form College have taken the decision to progress with the extension of the main college building in the centre of Rochdale.

With challenges including flood risk, limited developable area and proximity of neighbouring buildings, ABW have designed a minimal extension to the north aspect of the existing building.

The design looks to diversify the local architectural language and bring a

significantly increased amount of teaching space to the campus.

CLIENT:
Rochdale Sixth Form College

YEAR:
Due September 2024

SCOPE:
Existing Building Extension



Sixth Form College Extension Physical Facade Modelling





SPORTS CENTRE

NEW BUILD SPORTS CENTRE WITH SWIMMING POOL AND HALL

The Sports Complex forms an anchor point in the developing Eastern Campus. It is near the new main entrance to the University with nearby student housing, lake and beach.

Facilities include an eight court sports hall with viewing gallery, basketball, netball, badminton, five a side, 25m swimming pool, one hundred station fitness suite with state of the art equipment, health suite with sauna and steam rooms, aerobic studio.

These key spaces are complimented by a cafe and social space with views over playing fields and running track.

The building is designed to minimise visual impact, located midway in the site between two roads, at the point where the ground begins to rise, setting it into the landscape with trim trails and sports pitches running around. New deciduous planting creates further screening and shelter.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

YEAR:
February 2020

SCOPE:
New Build

AWARDS:
3rd in What Uni Student Choice Awards for Facilities 2023



Sports Centre Hall





ARNOT ST MARY PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIRST FLOOR EXTENSION AND LIBRARY REIMAGINATION

ABW worked with Arnot St Mary Primary School to create a new chapel space over an existing classroom and re-imagine two classrooms within the existing building as a new library space for the whole school to enjoy.

In converting the existing classrooms, the full height of Victorian building was exposed, allowing mezzanine reading space and new IT areas. Joinery was designed by ABW to create comfy book nooks and places to sit and read.

CLIENT:
Arnot St Mary C of E Primary School

YEAR:
September 2017

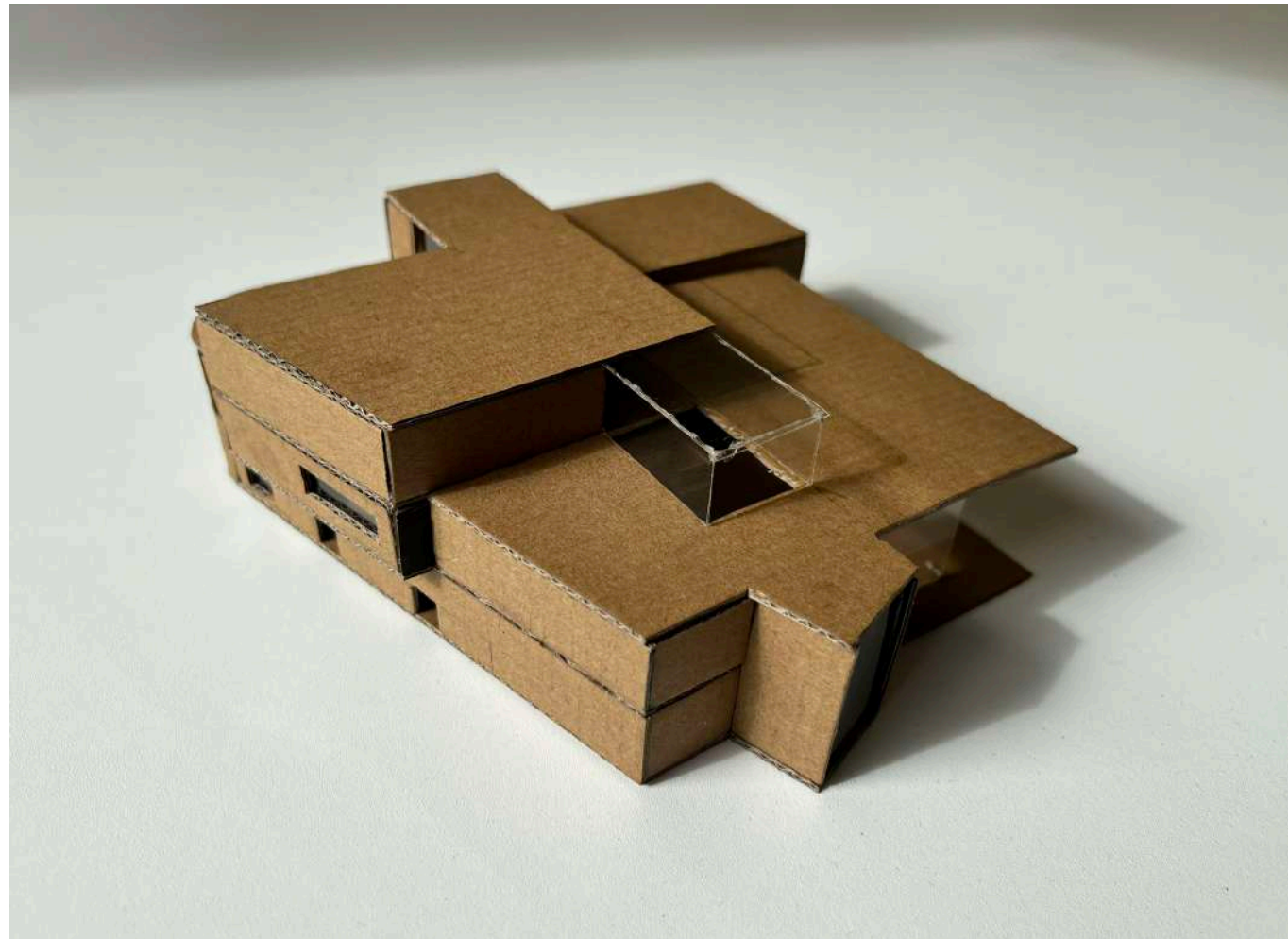
SCOPE:
Internal Refurbishment and
Extension

Completed in under 9 months, the tightly constrained, busy school next to a railway line presented a unique challenge. The chapel design has vaulted ceiling with exposed oak beams and large picture window framing views of roof tops and trees.



Primary School Library





STUDENTS' UNION

NEW BUILD STUDENTS' UNION FACILITY

An existing client has commissioned a new Students' Union building in a prominent, central location on campus.

The multi-function, three storey building comprises bar areas, food serverys, games areas, casual seating and a music space for events and gigs.

An industrial themed brief will consist of exposed services and structural elements complimented by dark brick and natural zinc cladding.

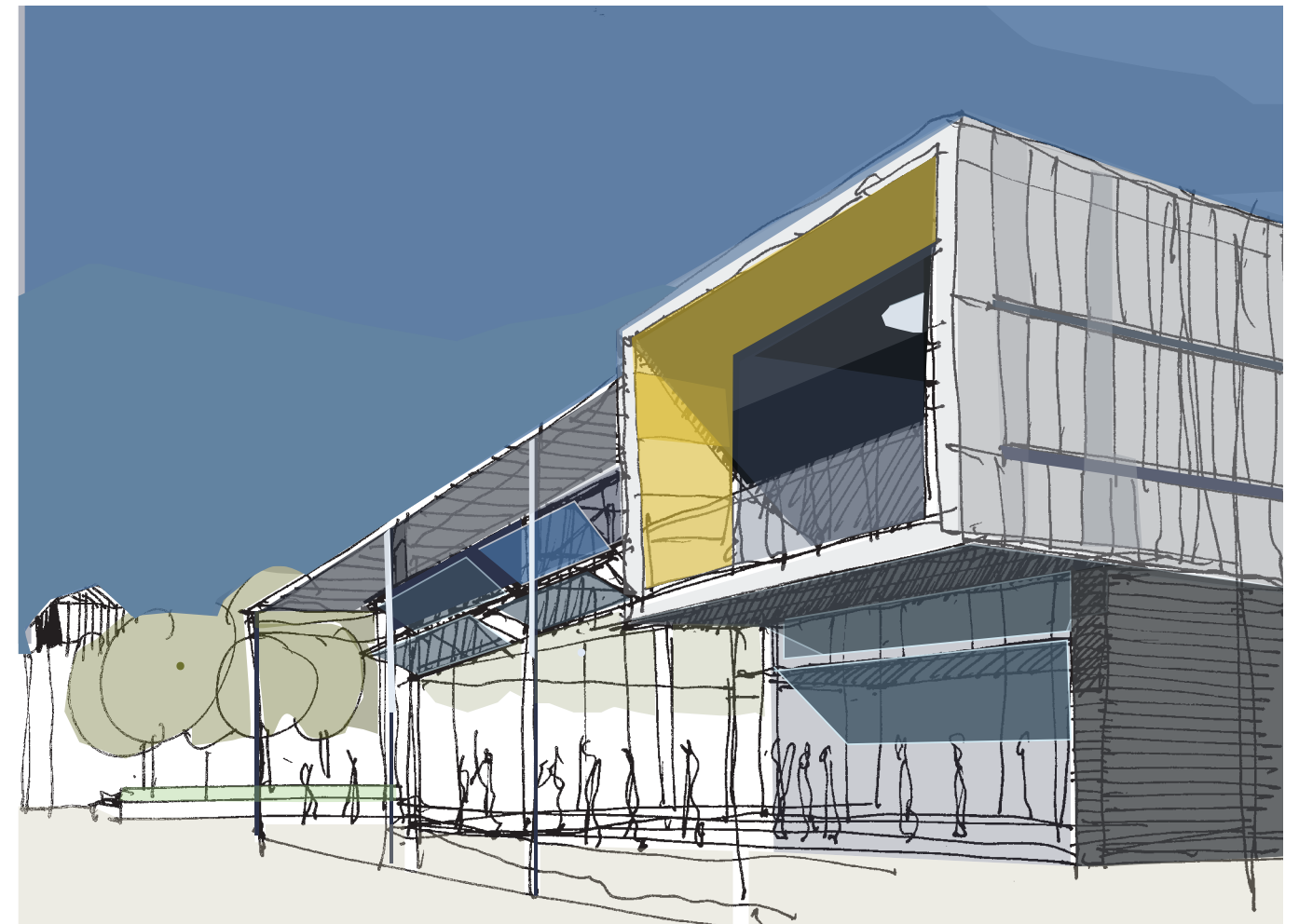
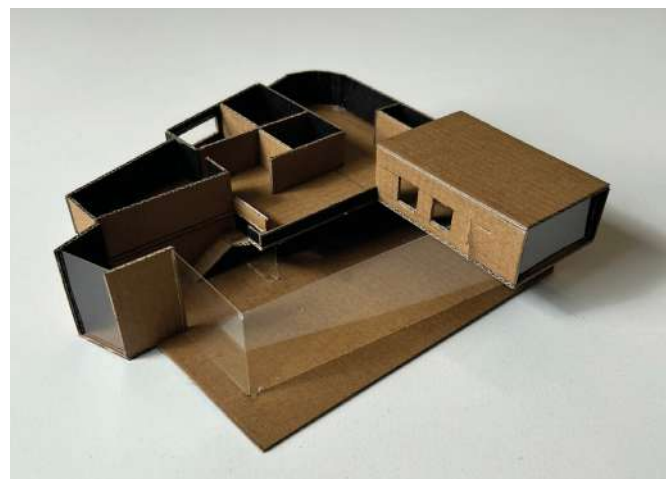
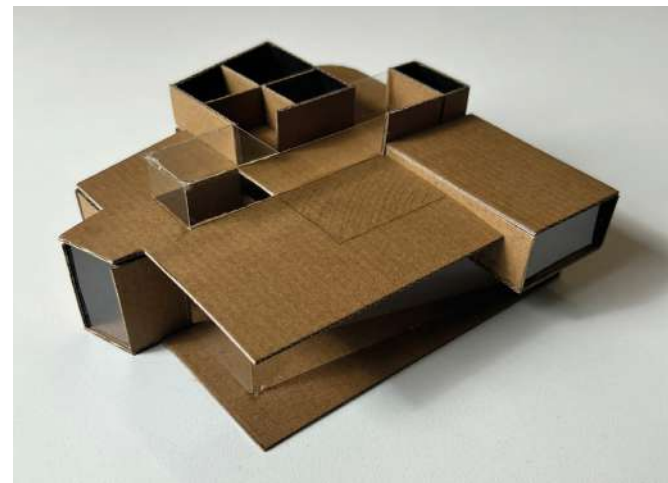
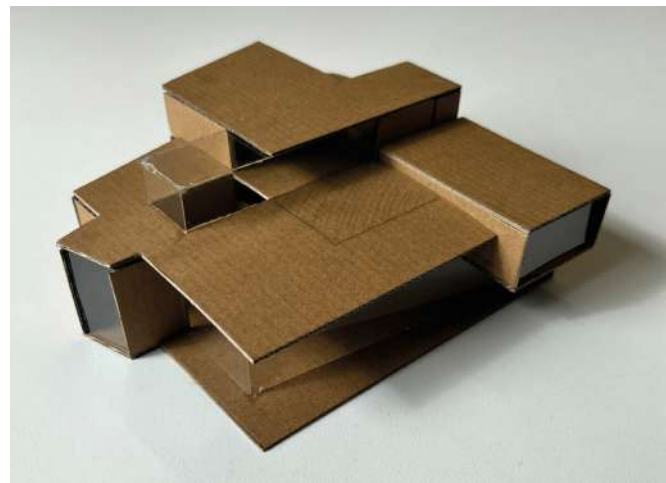
Simple forms and carefully arranged access points allow for a permeability between internal and external spaces through changing seasons.

Large glazed doors provide a dramatic and entertaining aspect to a predominantly glazed facade, adding intrigue and fun to a space designed for and by students.

CLIENT:
Edge Hill University

YEAR:
Due September 2024

SCOPE:
New Build



Students' Union Concept



EARLY YEARS TEACHING ZONE

REPURPOSING OFFICES TO A NEW TEACHING ENVIRONMENT

Due to increasing enrolment requirements and popularity of early learning teaching courses, Burnley College chose to repurpose two office rooms into interactive teaching spaces.

To reflect the nature of early years teaching environments the brief consisted of bright colours, flexible seating and a presentation space within a themed area.

Artificial grass and innovative joinery and lighting designs were delivered

to create an engaging space for students and staff alike.

CLIENT:
Burnley College

YEAR:
January 2023

SCOPE:
Internal Refurbishment



Early Years Teaching Zone Shape Sorter Furniture





EHU MASTERPLAN



THE CATALYST LIBRARY



BURNLEY COLLEGE MASTERPLAN



COLLEGE LIBRARY



UNIVERSITY HUB



LOGISTICS LEARNING CENTRE



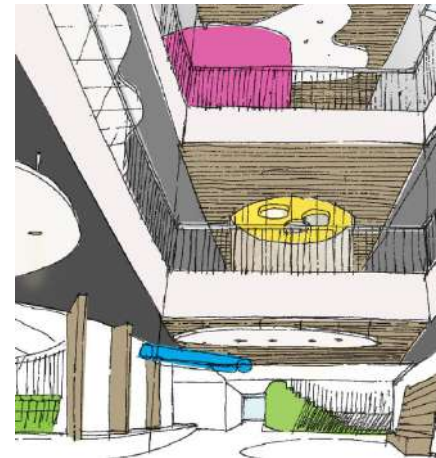
INDUSTRY HUB



SCHOOL MASTERPLAN



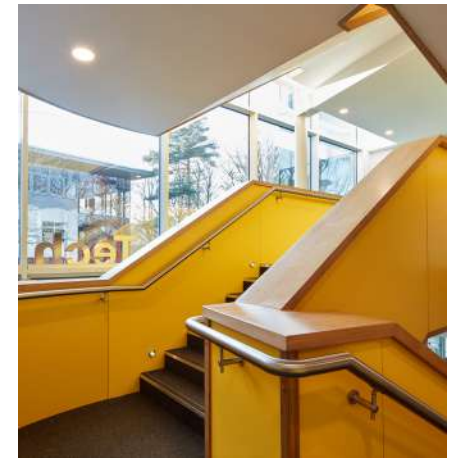
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE



LAW AND PSYCHOLOGY CENTRE



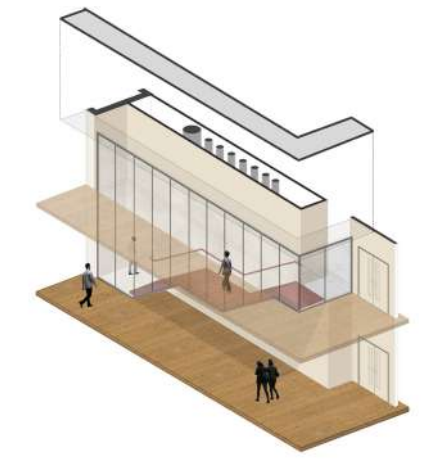
STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY



TECH HUB



CREATIVE EDGE MEDIA



LIFE SCIENCES FACULTY



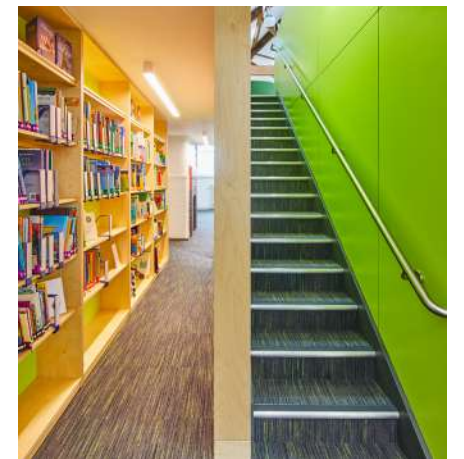
MANAGEMENT SCHOOL



SIXTH FORM COLLEGE EXTENSION



SPORTS CENTRE



PRIMARY SCHOOL



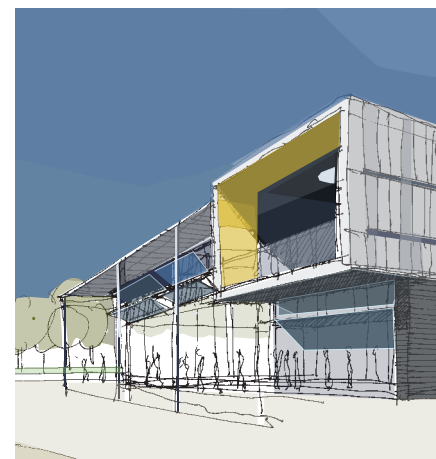
SOUTHPORT COLLEGE



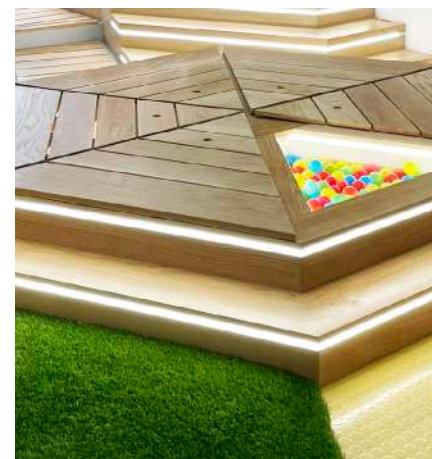
CITY OF LIVERPOOL COLLEGE



STUDENT ACCOMMODATION



STUDENTS' UNION



EARLY YEARS TEACHING ZONE



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