

FULL MARKS FOR EFFICIENCY



CITY OF LONDON ACADEMY ISLINGTON LONDON, UK

In continuation of the City of London's programme of Academies in the neighbouring boroughs, The City of London Academy Islington opened in 2010. This Academy replaces the Islington Green School with state of the art new buildings, whilst retaining the original Edwardian building which has been refurbished and modified to provide facilities for the Richard Cloudsley school. This special educational needs school opened in 2011 and is co-located on the site of the Academy.

The new, 800 student Academy was constructed on a tight, occupied site within a north London conservation area. A complex phasing programme was required to allow the existing school to continue to operate during construction. To meet the budget constraints this required the avoidance of temporary accommodation and the early completion of the sports hall as this was the only space available for sport during the two year construction programme.

BuroHappold Engineering devised a prefabricated timber structural solution for the new sports hall. This method of construction allowed the building to be constructed over the summer break and fitted-out within a single academic term. This significantly reduced the impact on the school and provided the key to unlocking the phasing. The use of low-carbon, sustainable prefabricated timber panels also reduced the environmental impact of the new structure.

Environmental sustainability was a major driver in other aspects of the school's design. It was believed to be the first academy to achieve BREEAM 'Excellent' and to achieve a 20% reduction in its carbon emissions through on site renewable technology, including a biomass boiler, GSHP and solar panels. The school's classrooms are naturally ventilated and feature chimney stacks to aid cross-ventilation. The exposed concrete frame provides thermal mass to help control the internal environments.

CLIENT
City of London / DCSF

ARCHITECT
Swanke Hayden Connel

PROJECT VALUE
£25 million

DURATION
Completed 2010

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY
BUROHAPPOLD**
Structural engineering, building services engineering, ground engineering, acoustics, infrastructure, fire engineering, sustainability, building physics