

# Pinewood Infant School

Property Services

RIBA Award 2008, Sorrell Award - Shortlisted 2008, Civic Trust Award - Commendation 2008



**Location:**

Farnborough, Hampshire

**Client:**

Hampshire County Council

**Value:** £ 3.2 million

**Completed:** September 2007

**Specialist teams:**

Architecture and Interiors:

HCC Property Services

Landscape: Hyland, Edgar, Driver

QS: HCC Property Services.

Structural: Price and Myers.

M&E: RHB Partnership.

Contractor: Kier Regional Ltd

Pinewood Infant School is located to the north of Farnborough, at the centre of a large residential development of mainly social rented housing. The original school buildings were severely damaged in a fire in March 2003, and the school had to operate from temporary buildings for four years. HCC Property Services were instructed by Hampshire County Council to design the replacement school and work started on site in July 2006 and completed in September 2007.

The brief for the new Pinewood Infant School was to accommodate 90 pupils in three classrooms, with an age range of 4-7 years, with a resource provision of language impairment, and a 24 place Early Years Unit. Admin accommodation was provided together with a central resource library, 120m<sup>2</sup> hall, music/drama room and ancillary sanitary accommodation. It was proposed to create larger than usual classrooms due to the resource provision.

Designed in three linear forms perpendicular to the one existing block that remained after the fire creating a courtyard that is used as a teaching facility as well as a drop-off and pick up area for the parents and children of the school. This enables the parents to be brought in to the heart of the school.

Sustainable features include: solar thermal panels for the hot-water, thermally super-insulated to maximise energy performance, day light linked and movement sensed lighting to minimise the need for artificial light, smart metering for all utility services and grey-water recycling for WC flushing.

“ ... I've worked in and visited a number of schools in my career and the new school encompasses the best of all those teaching and learning environments – and more!..... I am particularly satisfied with the way the school can welcome in its community and provide a safe and secure environment for the children. The arrangement has allowed parents and carers to build social networks and the children to develop their self confidence in moving around the building independently...”

Sue Harris,  
Headteacher, Pinewood Infant

## Key Benefits

- Adapted to meet the needs of the end user, rather than following standard provisions.
- The design has significantly contributed to the community feel of the school by making the courtyard area both secure and sociable.
- Superb teaching environment enhanced by large windows which maximises the amount of natural daylight streaming into the building and give views out into the surrounding woodland.
- Blended into the surrounding landscape.



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