

Writtle Junior School - The Pod Design Access Statement



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Location



Writtle Junior School and Writtle Infant School share a site in a quite area of south Writtle. The Junior School is located to the North-east of the site. Margaretting road runs along the eastern boundary and is lined with semi-detatched residential properties, lodge road runs along the northern boundary and has the same housing types. There is arable land to the west which belongs to the farm to the southern boundary.

The school is very forward thinking and believe that creating a space for high-tech equipment would enable the teachers to provide stimulating classes that engage the children by utilising modern technology. They are also concerned with the environment and it is important that "The Pod" also provides space for the children to create and interact with natural habitats.

The process of designing "The Pod" involved and was led by the children at all stages. All the students were encouraged during design workshops to express their design ideas, these were then distilled into the final design. We want the children to relate to "The Pod" as their creation, because it is.



Opportunities



As well as the design the students were able to indicate where the Learning Pod would go and how it would be established on the site. The pod is placed to allow easy access to and from the playground, meaning the teachers and students would have easy access to the building. It also enabled us to include a decorative facade, designed by the children, facing the playground for all the students to enjoy during breaks.

Air and Noise pollution was taken into consideration when locating the pod. It has therefore been placed in the centre of the site as far from the boundaries as possible but still in close proximity to the school. This enables the students to really enjoy the spaces both inside and out.

NeobardBurnson

Architects

Facade

The facade was taken into consideration by all the students at the school, and through their ideas we designed a facade in colour cordination with the school colours. The smaller triangular panels range in opacity from opaque to transparent, this creates a dynamic facade that allows varying levels and colours of light through and views out to the playground. LED strip lights zigzag through the pattern created by the traingular panels. The LED Strips are on a dusk till dawn sensor and will be on a timed switch to be off between 9pm and 6am.





NeobardBurnson Architects

Fnvironment





Swift / Swallow







The proposed development has been

School Allotment



There are allotments located around the pod, the main one is in the void left in the trangular prism geometry to the north east and smaller ones are recessed within the facade panels. These provide space for the students to engage in and learn about their environment, which was part of the brief described by the children themselves. It also creates another dimension to the design by engaging olfactory senses.



Rainwater Harvesting & Green Wall

Triangular prisms are extruded along the length of the hypotenuse of the triangluar facade structures to prevent children climbing up the beams. They also act as a parapet to guide any rainwater collected by the pod roof to the school allotments below.

The north west elevation faces the infant school and will have a wire trellis to grow climbing plants and provide a positive natural view from the infants class rooms.







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