

This booklet is issued by
Essex County Council (Building Schools for the Future Team).
You can contact us in the following ways:

By telephone:
01245 436 363

By email:
bsf@essex.gov.uk

Visit our website:
www.essexbsf.org

The information contained in this document can be translated, and/or made available in alternative formats, on request.

Published February 2010



Columbus School and College



Essex County Council and Skanska RM are pleased to announce their new design proposals for Columbus School and College

**Our plans will be available for you to view on: Thursday, 4th March 2010
The School Hall (the School Hall), Patching Hall Lane, Chelmsford,
Essex CM1 4BX
from: 6.00pm – 8.00pm**

We look forward to seeing you then



The Columbus School and College design proposal:

- A design which focuses on social inclusion and celebrates all that children with disabilities can achieve
- A design created in partnership with the school to support every child on their educational journey at Columbus
- World class learning campus from age 3 to 19
- Described as ‘exciting design’ and ‘a high quality proposal’, by the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE).

Looking to the future

Skanska RM’s proposals are designed to accelerate the journey of social inclusion that the school and college promotes. We will help deliver an environment where every child has a part to play in their personal learning journey.

Supporting the vision

The design celebrates the school and college’s ethos. The learning environments, and the social spaces within the learning clusters, are exciting and vibrant to deliver truly personalised learning according to need, supported by specific Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools. These spaces also have the flexibility

to work as larger learning environments. The design creates a sense of anticipation and supports opportunities on a par with any school in the country.

Learning is about relationships, and the design delivers an environment where the staff can interact with students and each other. This is supported by wireless network access and high quality furniture and fittings. Enhanced swimming pool facilities at the college meet the school’s vision for hydrotherapy.

Making connections

Social inclusion is at the heart of the proposals: an ‘Eco Zone’ and



‘Eco Trail’ attract local schools and the community to visit, and the new, stunning two-storey atrium entrance on Columbus Square acts as a welcoming beacon to the community.

The ‘cool’ café, located at the front of the atrium, encourages students to relax or work on their personally-specified mobile devices by accessing the shared network. The space also promotes social interaction and skills development with the community.

Integrated design, innovative ICT

The stimulating immersive Learning Environment creates a multi-sensory approach to developing stepping stones to independent living.

The effectiveness of our design relies on understanding the needs of learners and the integration of physical design with technology. Touch screen plasmas, digital signage and high quality projection facilities are located throughout the new learning and social spaces.

Access to personalised ICT will be used by students in school and at home to manage their own personalised online space, supporting all learners, regardless of their physical and learning needs.

For more details please contact the Building Schools for the Future Team on: 01245 436 363 or email: bsf@essex.gov.uk