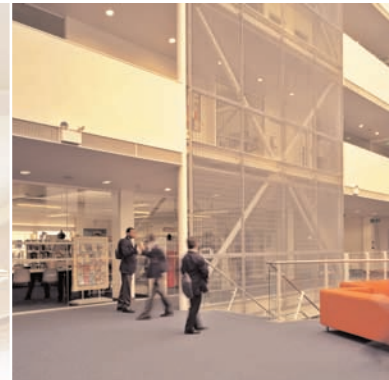


City of London Academy working with Demco



With investment of more than £30m from Government and the Corporation of London, the new City of London Academy in Bermondsey is bringing learning innovation and outstanding amenities to nearly six hundred 11 – 19 year olds.

The new library is at the heart of the modern, light and airy interior of one of the most modern schools in the country. Demco designed the library and supplied most library furnishings to create a light, calm, user friendly learning environment that would last for years.



INSPIRING
LIBRARY
DESIGN

Demco recommended by Schools' Library Service

Head Teacher, Martin Coles places a high priority on literacy and reading and shared the same vision as Librarian Laura Taylor of the library as a physical and emotional hub of the school. Consultant for the project was Pam Dix from Islington's Education Library Service who recommended Demco as a supplier of high quality library design and products. The company also had the resources to ensure the library would be ready for the opening of this very high profile school.

What do the pupils think?

The library is open for pupils to visit for independent reading or out of class research. "The children have been devouring the books" says Laura. "The boys enjoy the fantasy and comic novels as well as exciting new authors." Not just visiting, but participating in this new library, boys have been keen to help on the issue counter not only for reward but because they are enjoying it "it's good fun and it keeps us out of trouble!".

Bomefa 150 shelving for long term quality

There are no compromises in this school and this philosophy extends to the library furnishings. With its punched steel, high tech look and promising long term quality, Demco's Bomefa 150 shelving could not be beaten.

Demco Sales and Marketing Director, Richard Mitchell, adds "Bomefa is a high finish system with many design and function options that can be expanded and adapted to meet changing needs. The life span of the system was very important to the school when selecting the shelving. It wasn't about short term fixes, it was about a system that looked good and performed well now, and still in ten to twenty years time."

Perforated steel was used on the front of the Harlequin counter to 'read' with the shelving, creating a co-ordinated airy and stylish look throughout the library.

A zoned, more informal reading area encourages pupils to sit and read in a casual and relaxed manner. Where space was limited bench seating has been carefully crafted to fit beneath window sills and into corners, and upholstered modular benching can be reconfigured to suit different uses. When observing pupils it's easy to see how they create their own personal and study space, some will even lie on the benching browsing magazines and reading books. This is furnishing design that is not prescriptive in its style, layout, materials or usage.

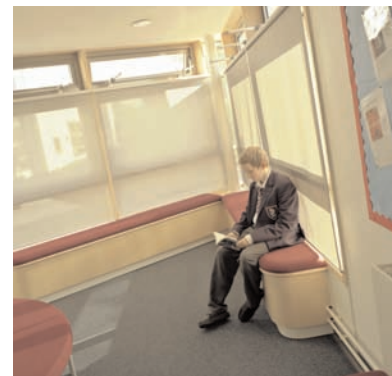
Graphics to encourage reading

Laura has selected graphics from Demco's newly launched gallery of graphics. These show young people enjoying the world of books and reading and add to the overall library design as well as signposting specific interests and areas.

More to come

Within two years the Academy will be educating 1200 students and space has already been earmarked for its expansion. The enduring style and adaptability of the Bomefa 150 shelving will make extending this library facility a much easier task.

The City Academy is just one example of how Demco's wide range of furnishings has something to suit every educational environment. From small primary schools, to high profile projects (such as the Academy), and to larger collaborative PFI projects, high quality, enduring and flexible furnishings create exciting learning environments for both staff and pupils.



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