



UNIVERSITY OF CHICHESTER LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

The second phase of the University of Chichester, Bishop Otter Campus, Learning Resource Centre refurbishment is now complete with students using the new quiet study space. Demco Interiors was contracted to consult on the overall design, based on a two year phased programme, and to supply shelving and some of the furnishings.

Working closely with the Architect, the brief was to create a "vibrant, alive, jolly" interactive space with small group study areas centred in booths and semi casual soft furnishings that could be used for relaxed study. With a large amount of stock to accommodate, shelving takes up a large part of the

available space but with careful space planning and Demco's finely engineered Mode shelving, the area has an open, airy feel with clear sightlines and easy navigation around the floor.

Demco have been commended by the University team for their involvement with the project. Anna O'Neill, Director of Learning and Information Services, said: "They had an instant understanding of what we wanted. They understood the practicalities of designing a library space and could use their experience to advise us. They have been very helpful, with good design ideas."



A study floor not a leisure floor

Designated as a quiet study floor Demco designer Steve Beasant specified the design for the very popular study booth seating and also the high backed semi-formal sofas, upholstered in the pure wool, eco friendly, blue and grey Blazer fabric. Anna O'Neill, explains: *"We wanted to include some element of casual seating in the area but were wary of traditional low level sofas where students could sit and chatter. It was important to keep the quiet study theme so Steve showed us designs for the high backed sofas which give students relaxed seating but in a study context."*

"We know students love the booth idea"

Students love the bookable study booths. Students Katy and Sophie said: *"The booths are great especially when you are working on a presentation. A lot of the courses at this University are presentation based so are doing a lot of these. It's good because*

you need to be able to talk to the people you are working with and the tables give you plenty of room to spread out with your laptops, presentation materials etc and you can link up to the large screens. The booths are very popular."

Demco commended for their input

David Wratten Property Development Manager, University of Chichester adds: *"Terrific service both in terms of consultancy and supply. Not the cheapest but quality of product and service was way above others we have used. We chose Demco because of their reputation and ability to provide consultancy input to the team for a reasonable fee with no strings attached."*

The third phase of the refurbishment will be for the third floor silent study space and will roll out in 2014. For more information: <http://demcointeriors.co.uk/> University-of-Chichester Twitter: @demcointeriors