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Queen Anne's School Sixth Form Centre

The new Sixth Form Centre at Queen Anne's School is a state-of-the-art educational environment. Our aim is to enhance teaching and learning for our Sixth Form students by offering innovative approaches to education. The Centre helps students to feel more like adults, preparing them for life beyond school.



The Centre has been designed to create inspiring learning environments. It utilises new technologies, furniture design, spatial planning and architectural design to liberate students from the traditional classroom environment. It provides exciting educational environments within a unique and contemporary setting. The building creates the feel of the hub of an innovative 21st century company such as Google, containing vibrant spaces with which students can interact.



The Centre is equipped with an entirely digital library, containing an extensive collection of digital resources accessible through the school's network. There are several large study pods offering enclosed workspaces where groups of students can



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engage in seminars or group work. These are equipped with interactive screens linked to Google Chromecast and Apple TV, enabling users to project and control media from computers and mobile devices.

The classroom walls are coated with write-on, projectable wallpaper which allow teachers and students to utilise the walls as versatile visual aids.



Twinned classrooms are conjoined by sliding doors, allowing them to be doubled in size, giving the option of spaces for larger events such as lectures or for group work in a larger setting.



The Centre contains innovative furniture which creates more flexible environments. There are segmental tables which can be arranged in patterns such as clusters, arcs or rows; and they can be combined to create larger tables. These allow teachers to adjust the classroom according to the desired teaching method and allow students to customise their learning environment to their needs. Rooms are equipped with dual sitting position chairs, which can be safely tilted forwards and backwards to straighten



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the pelvis and spine, a design that improves circulation to the abdominal and back muscles.



There are 'breakout' spaces, decorated according to themes chosen by students, including Central Park, a West End Theatre and the inside of Big Ben. Contemporary artistic design has been provided by Bread Collective, a London-based award-winning design group.



Queen Anne's has implemented research findings from its educational neuroscience project, BrainCanDo, into the Centre's design. We recognise the importance of a collaborative learning environment which enables dynamic, interactive discussion to foster deeper learning.



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We want our teachers to harness the power of emotional contagion within the classroom to increase the motivation of all students to learn. The building's design and the flexibility of the space and furniture enables more effective teamwork, so educators can work with the power of emotional contagion within the classroom by engendering group work in which motivation to learn can be shared and spread throughout groups. These ideas emerge from one of our ongoing collaborative research projects with experts at the University of Reading, on the importance of emotional contagion in education. You can find out more on BrainCanDo by visiting www.braincando.com

