

Specifying Toilets For Education: Primary

Technical Manual

This product guide covers the subject of designing and specifying toilet facilities in Primary schools.





SECTION ONE: SETTING THE SCENE



1800s

DRY TOILETS

Pupils use segregated 'dry toilets' situated behind the school. No running water is available. Instead, earth and ash are used to cover each layer once the toilet is used.



THE HISTORY OF TOILETS IN EDUCATION SETTINGS



FLUSHABLE TOILETS

Schools begin to use flushable toilets and interconnected porcelain washbasins.

1900s

1991

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSABLE

Education (School Premises) Regulations 1991 (SPRs) published. Outlines that wheelchair-accessible toilets should be distributed across the whole school for use by staff and visitors as well as by disabled pupils.



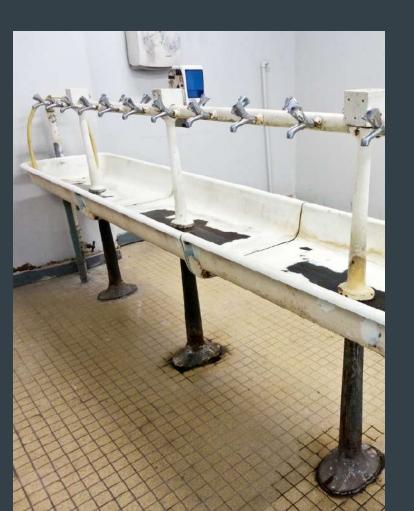


STANDARDS

Education Act 1996
places a duty on the Secretary
of State to prescribe standards
for the premises of all maintained
schools in England and Wales.

Education







2002



EDUCATION ACT

Education Act 2002 empowers the Secretary of State to prescribe standards for the premises of independent schools and academies

2007

SCHOOL TOILETS

Toilets in Schools Guidance issued by the (then) Department for Education and Skills. It recommends using wash troughs, avoiding urinals, ensuring locks are easy to use and that disabled people have access to at least one cubicle.













GENDER NEUTRAL TOILETS

Bramhall High School near Stockport is one of the first to introduce gender neutral toilets

2000



BRITISH STANDARD

British standard 6465-1:2006 Sanitary Installations introduced.

Gives recommendations on the design of sanitary facilities and the recommended scale of provision of sanitary and associated appliances in both new buildings and those undergoing major refurbishment.

2006

BULLYING

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine finds 40% of girls would never visit school toilets due to bullying and anti-social behaviour. 12% of secondary school boys say that bad things happen in the toilets.

2010



'LIGHT TOUCH' GUIDANCE

the use of one person at a time.



2013

REGULATIONS

Part 5 of the revised Education (Independent School Standards) (England) Regulations 2010 comes into force. Setting out standards expected for premises of independent schools and academies.

2015

PILOTING

A report on two Scottish schools piloting these guidelines says open plan toilets work well, with no adverse comments raised about behaviour issues in either schools.







School Premises Regulations 2012 come into force. Among other

'light touch' guidance, it advises on separate boys and girls toilet

cubicles which can be locked from the inside and are designed for

blocks for all children over the age of eight, except for single







SCHOOL TOILETS

In Scotland, Perth and Kinross, Angus, Dundee and Fife Councils release guidelines recommending an "open plan unisex toilet with central fountain handwash" as a way of reducing concerns around vandalism and ensuring there are enough toilets for both sexes."

2012

2013

FLEXIBILITY IN SCHOOLS

DfE issues Advice for Standards on School Premises, based on School Premises Regulations 2012. It is an advisory document intended to be less prescriptive than the 2007 DfES guidance. Schools are given more flexibility.

2015

WHAT GUIDANCE IS APPLICABLE TODAY?

WHILE THERE ARE ELEMENTS OF OTHER LEGISLATION YOU SHOULD CONSIDER, THE TWO KEY DOCUMENTS YOU NEED TO FOLLOW WHEN SPECIFYING SCHOOL WASHROOM AND TOILET FACILITIES ARE:

STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL PREMISES

Most recently updated in 2015, Advice for standards on school premises is an advisory document that is intended to give schools more flexibility around design compared to its 2007 predecessor.

BRITISH STANDARD 6465-1:2006+2009 - SANITARY INSTALLATIONS

This is the code of practice for the design of sanitary facilities and scales of provision of sanitary and associated appliances. In other words, it provides the technical detail around school washroom and toilet design, including things like amount of fixtures you need to supply. It is purchasable via the British Standards Institutions website.



British Standard 6465-1:2006 Sanitary Installations (revised 2009)

This British Standard sets out the ideal number of fixtures per washroom as follows:

Fixture	Number of Fixtures	Comments
Male toilet and urinal	1 per 20 pupils	Urinals should constitute no more than 2/3rds of boys' fixtures
Female toilet	1 per 20 pupils	-
Handwash basin	1 per toilet / urinal where there are 3 or fewer fixtures 2 per 3 toilets/urinals where there are 3 or more fixtures	Toilets and urinals should be near to a handwash basin



2007) ayouts 2015)

opriate than individual e visually pleasing, uce the risk of intentional

inals – are best avoided, to a disorder known as



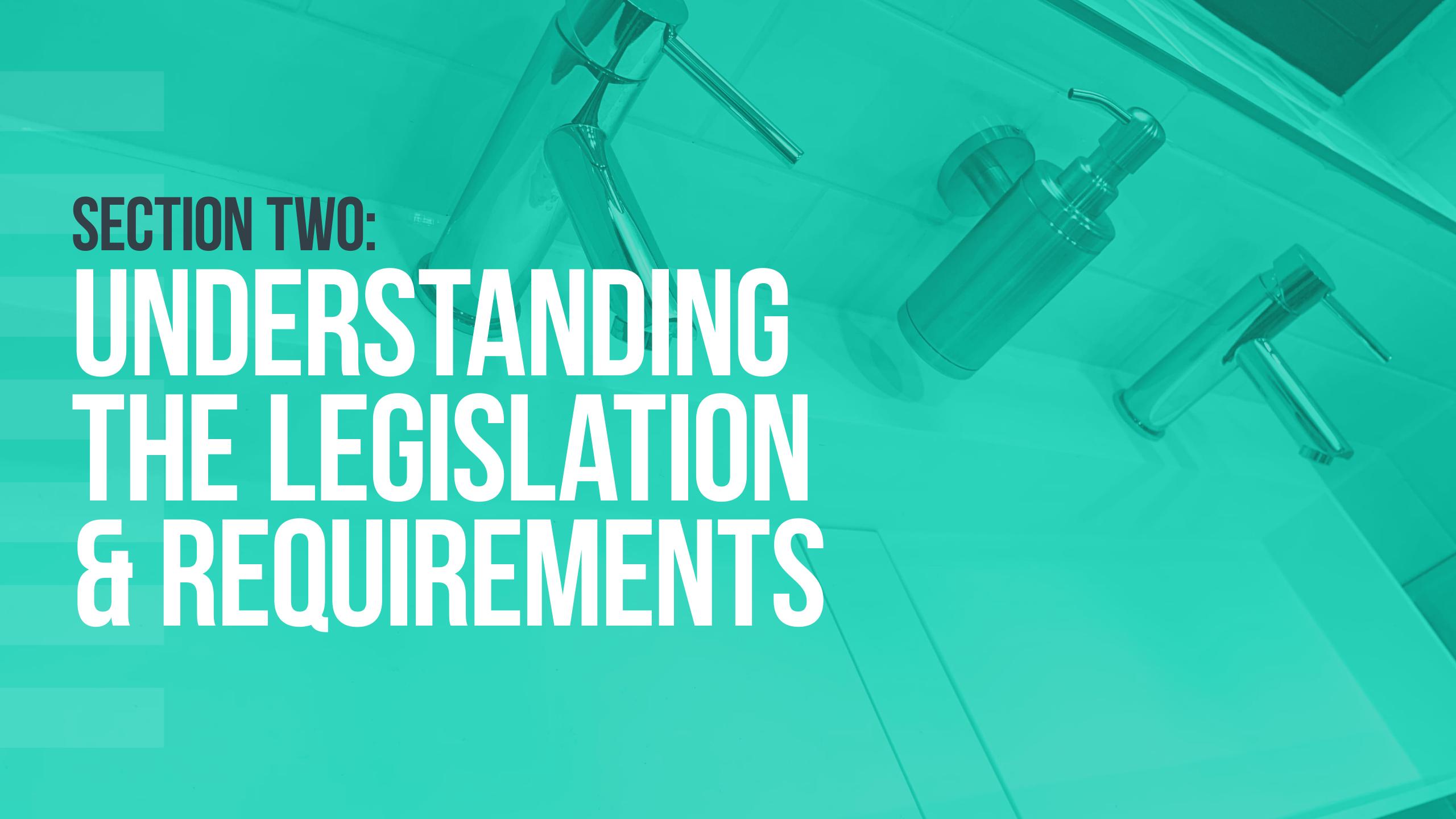
Background noise within the washroom should be ideally increased to 55db to ensure aural privacy



Washrooms should be located opposite staff rooms and offices to facilitate regular passive supervision



All toilets blocks must contain a wheelchair-accessible cubicle and an ambulant cubicle for disabled pupils who are able to walk



SECTION TWO:

UNDERSTANDING THE LEGISLATION & REQUIREMENTS

PROVISION

According to the 2015 DfE guidance, you should be incorporating the following factors into your specifications:



Suitable changing rooms with showers must be provided for children aged 11 and over who participate in physical education.



Handwashing facilities should be installed close to every toilet



Toilet facilities should be well lit and ventilated



They should be located in areas that are both easily for pupils to access and for staff to monitor, without diminishing the privacy of pupils



Separate boys and girls
toilet blocks must be
available for all children
over the age of eight,
except for single cubicles
which can be locked
from the inside and are
designed for the use of
one person at a time



With the exception of disabled toilets, student toilets and staff toilets should be kept separate

ACCESSIBLE TOILETS

But there is also older guidance that you need to consider, in the shape of the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1991 (SPRs).

It states that wheelchair-accessible toilets should be available throughout the entire school, and for the use of staff, visitors and disabled pupils.

Accessible toilets should contain at least one toilet and washbasin. They need to be finished to the same standard and aesthetic as other washrooms, and should be made available in the same locations.

An important caveat here is that there should be enough available so that users only need to travel a reasonable distance and are not required to change floors.

And depending on the needs of pupils, it may be necessary to add facilities such as assisted changing in primary schools or a wash-down fitting for a secondary school hygiene room.



OVERALL ACCESSIBILITY

While we have touched on access for people with a disability, there are other considerations as well. For example, at least one washroom must be easy to access from the spaces used during lunch and break times.

In reception and nursery schools, toilets should be either adjacent or connected to the classroom. And again, there should be a washroom that can be easily accessed from lunch and break spaces.



FIXTURES

According to the British
Standard part M, the ideal
number of fixtures per
washroom are as follows:

PRESCHOOL (AGES 3-5)

FIXTURE	NUMBER OF FIXTURES
Toilet	1 per 10 pupils (no fewer than 4)
Handwash basin	1 per toilet
Large sink, shower or bath	1 per 40 pupils

PRIMARY SCHOOL (AGES 4-11)

FIXTURE	NUMBER OF FIXTURES	COMMENTS
Toilet and urinal	Under 5 years: 1 per 10 pupils	Urinals should constitute no more than 2/3rds of boys' fixtures
Handwash basin	1 per toilet/urinal	Toilets and urinals should be near to a handwash basin

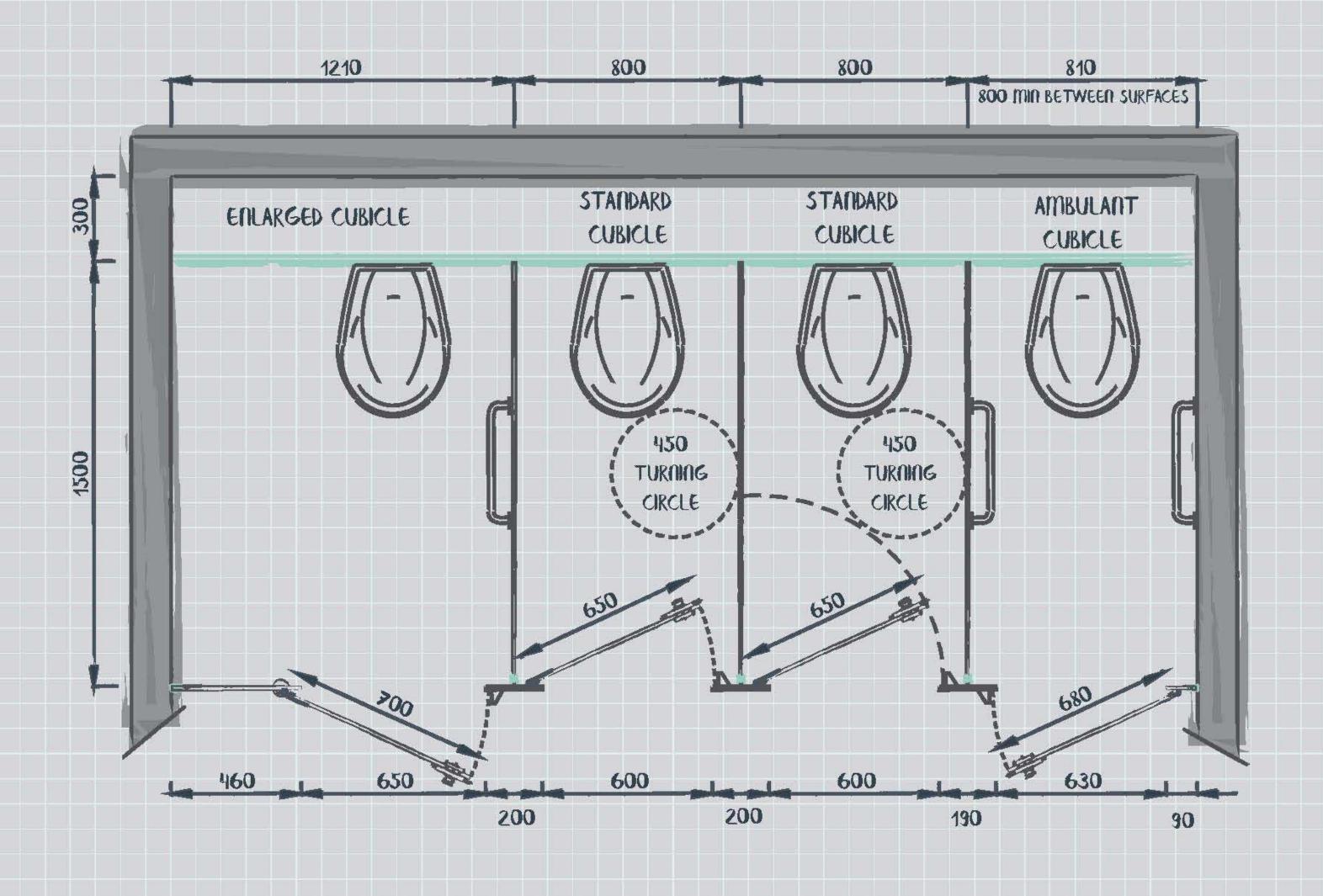
DIMENSIONS

The standard dimensions for cubicle size, width, depth and turning circle are outlined in British Standard Part M.

It states that all standard cubicles are required to have a manoeuvring space of at least 450mm in diameter clear of the swing door. Not only that, but the locks must be capable of being operated with a closed fist in a single action, and the cubicles must be accessible in the event of an emergency.

It also dictates that every same-sex washroom is required to have at least one cubicle accessible for the ambulant disabled. In human speak, that means people who happen to have a disability but aren't confined to a bed or a wheelchair. So if there's only one cubicle, then that too must be suitable. This requires a gap of at least 800mm between surfaces, an outward opening door, an activity space of 750mm and the appropriate grab rails.

Finally, if the washroom holds four or more cubicles, then one of them must also be enlarged to a minimum width of 1200mm, with an outward opening door that opens towards a wall. There must also be both vertical and horizontal grab rails around the toilet, with space available for a fold-down changing table.



STANDARD CUBICLE LAYOUT

RECOMMENDED CUBICLE HEIGHTS

In this guide, we have adapted the dimensions suggested in the British Standard guidance to our own recommendations. In addition to meeting all requirements outlined in the existing guidance, these dimensions are based on our own extensive experience of the needs of different education settings.

FOUNDATION



NURSERY / RECEPTION AGES 3-5

• 1200mm high (1050 + 150 leg).

KEY STAGE 1



INFANTS AGES 5-7

• 1500mm high (1350 + 150 leg).

KEY STAGE 2



JUNIORS AGES 7-11

Separate facilities for boys and girls

- 1500mm high (1350 + 150 leg)
- or 1950mm high (1800 + 150 leg)

Gender neutral facilities

Floor to ceiling?

KEY STAGE 3 & ABOVE



SECONDARY AGES 11+ AND FURTHER EDUCATION

Separate facilities for boys and girls

• 1950mm high (1800 + 150 leg)

Gender neutral facilities

Floor to ceiling



SECTION THREE: CONSIDERATIONS WHEN DESIGNING FACILITIES IN EDUCATION SETTINGS

BULLYING AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

In 2010, a report from London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine found that school toilets can be a hotspot for bullying, anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

The design of toilet blocks can have a significant impact on this behaviour. Large centralised blocks offer little opportunity for adequate supervision and single gender washrooms cannot be monitored easily without infringing on pupils' privacy.

These issues are reinforced by Lauren Seagar-Smith, CEO of anti-bullying charity Kidscape:

"Under the Equality Act 2010, schools as public bodies have a legal duty to protect children from harassment. And opportunities for inclusive design such as gender-neutral facilities and individual cubicle privacy are important steps that schools can take to provide protection."

Gender neutral washrooms are becoming an increasingly popular solution to these issues. They are open plan and require enclosed floor-to-ceiling cubicles, making it possible to install CCTV to help cut down on bullying and vandalism.

This can be reinforced by ensuring toilets are configured in small blocks, and locating them outside staff accommodation for increased supervision.



LAUREN SEAGER-SMITH CEO, KIDSCAPE

'School toilets and changing rooms can be hotspots for bullying because they are often unsupervised and out of sight of CCTV cameras.

They can be sites of embarrassment, worry and anxiety for children, particularly as they approach adolescence and become increasingly self-aware

And with rates of homophobic, biphobic, transphobic and sexual bullying causing real concern, Kidscape are committed to ensuring all children have a right to privacy and protection.

Under the Equality Act 2010, schools as public bodies have a legal duty to protect children from harassment, and opportunities for inclusive design such as gender-neutral facilities and individual cubicle privacy are important steps that schools can take to provide protection."





FUTURE FACING SOLUTION TO THE UNKNOWN GENDE OF OCCUPANTS

REDUCE QUEUING TIMES

GENDER EQUALITY

In traditional single-sex washroom designs, studies have shown that women wait an average of six minutes to use the toilet. Men, on the other hand, wait 11 seconds.

In a gender neutral washroom which has had urinals removed (in line with the DfES 2007 guidance), both genders wait an average of two minutes.

In addition, it prepares for a future in which the gender ratio of occupants is unknown, keeping things equal.

SAVES SPACE

PRIVACY

Communal areas within the blocks should be easy to see without encroaching on privacy. This can be achieved by setting cubicle doors a minimum of 90 degrees from the circulation route within the facility.

Again, having floor-to-ceiling cubicles within a gender neutral washroom setting offers significantly more privacy when compared to single gender washrooms.



MATERIALS

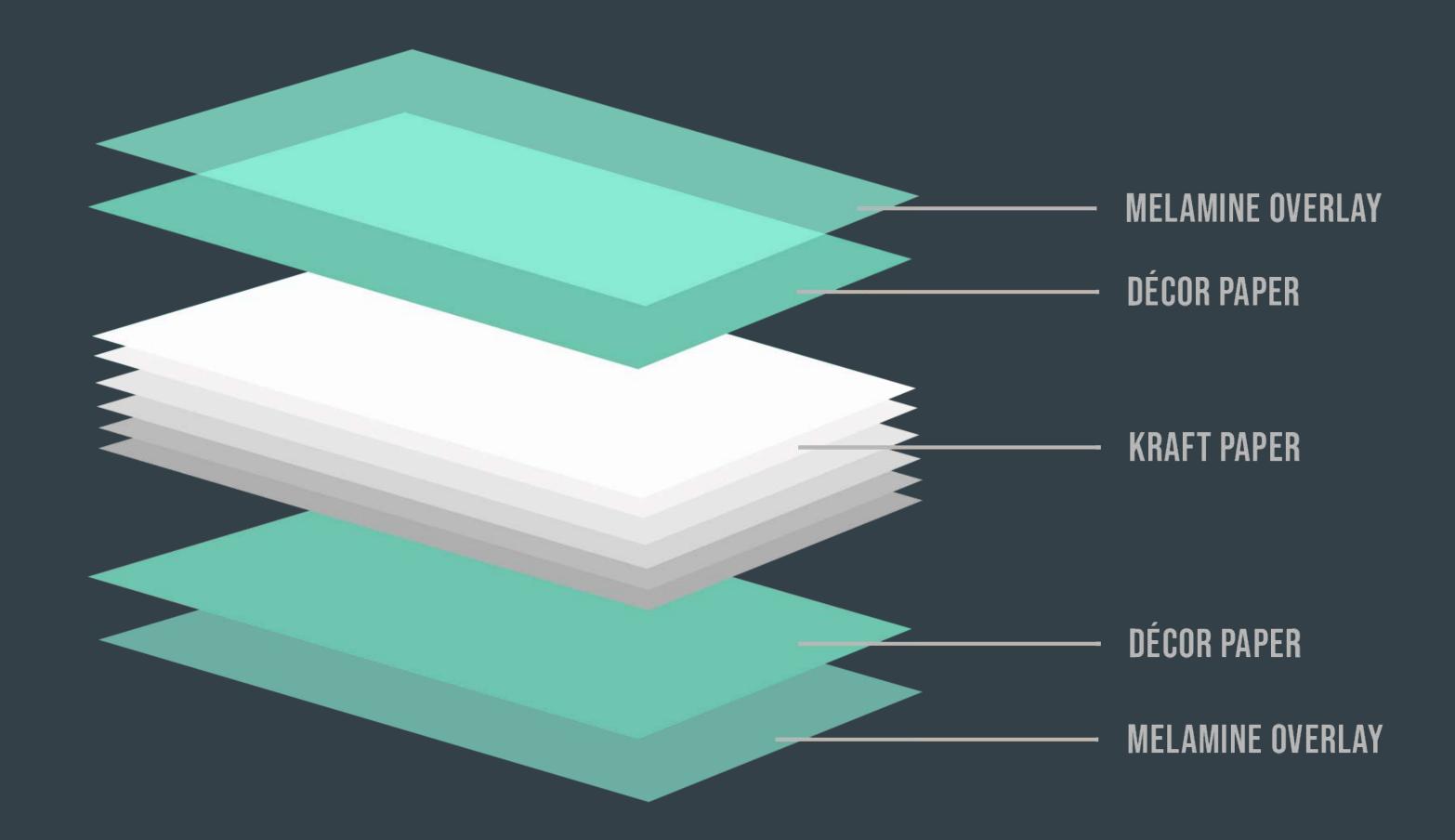
According to the Priority School Building Programme's Services Output Specification 2013, materials used in school washroom specifications should have a minimum life expectancy of 20 years.

CUBICLES

When specifying materials for duct panels and duct shadow gaps, cubicles and vanity under panels, we recommend 12mm compact grade laminate (CGL). It is extra durable, anti-vandal and water-resistant, and comes in a large range of colours.

WASH TROUGHS

We recommend solid surface wash troughs, crafted from acrylic and hand-finished for exceptional aesthetics, durability and performance. The troughs are easy to maintain, available in 5 standard sections and can accommodate either wall or deck mounted taps.





LITTLE ONES

FOUNDATION — AGE 3-5



A bright, playful and durable washroom cubicle designed specifically for nurseries. With no sharp edges or corners, this product is perfect for providing a safe and familiar environment for younger children.

Using freestanding pilasters, this range requires no headrails, which keeps the panels at a low level, ensuring children feel comfortable and secure. Magnetic catches come as standard to prevent accidental "lock-ins".

SPECIFICATION

- 12.5 mm Compact Grade Laminate (CGL) doors and partitions
- Printed Aluminium Pilasters with our Rainbow design as standard
- Bespoke images can be printed onto the Pilasters at a small additional cost

STANDARD DIMENSION

- 1200mm or 1500mm Standard Heights x 1500mm deep
- Non-standard dimensions are available on request



CRACK RESISTANT



IMPACT RESISTANT



ABRASION RESISTANT



MOISTURE RESISTANT



SCRATCH RESISTANT



HEAT RESISTANT



EASE OF MAINTENANCE



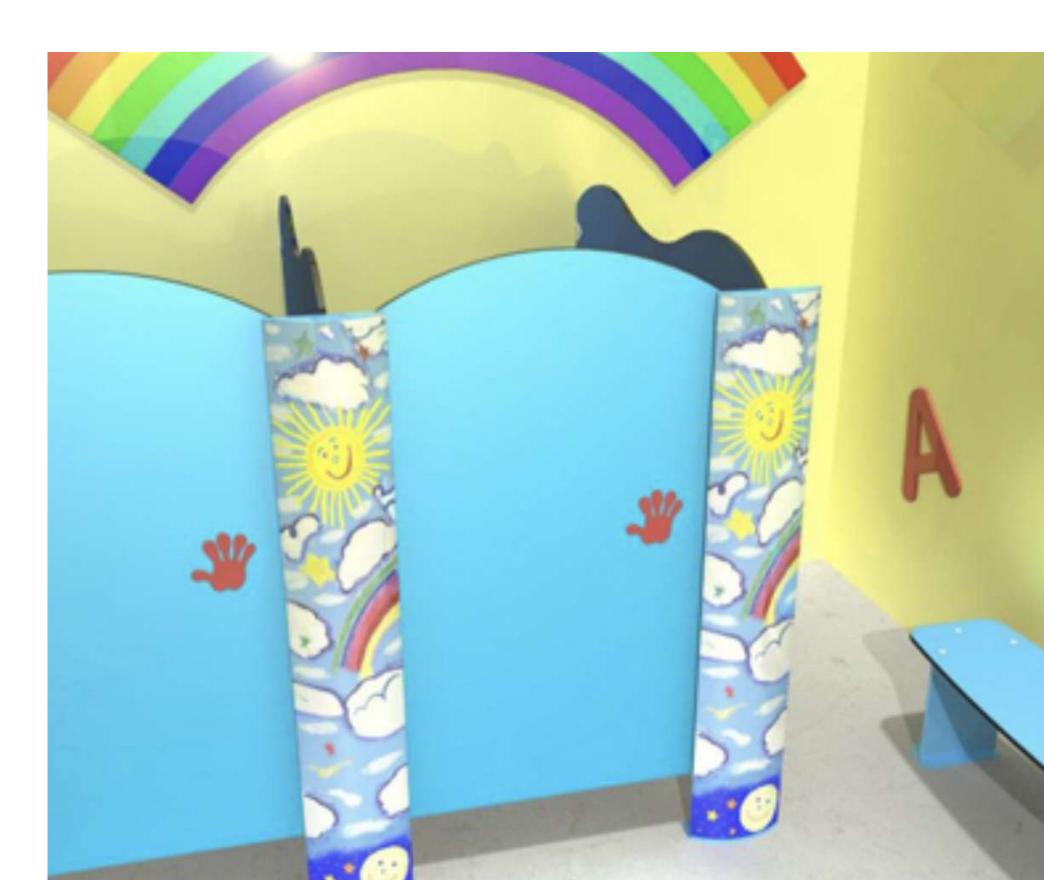
RESISTANT TO CHEMICAL AND HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS



COLOUR FASTNESS UNDER ARTIFICIAL LIGHT

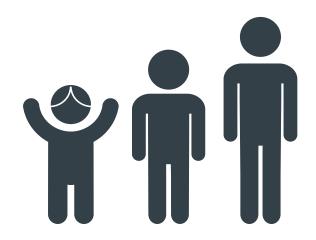


HYGIENIC SURFACE



JUNO

FOUNDATION / KEY STAGE 1 KEY STAGE 2 — AGE 3-11



A simple, robust and adaptable washroom solution appropriate for primary schools. With a diverse range of door heights and partition shapes, this product is flexible enough to suit any primary pupil age and allow for teacher supervision.

The Juno range also provides a broad range of aesthetic options – choose from over 50 vibrant colour combinations to match or contrast the washroom environment.

SPECIFICATION

- 12.5 mm Compact Grade Laminate (CGL) doors, partitions and pilasters
- Black core with a radiused edge
- Shaped doors and partitions
- Satin Anodised Aluminium bolt through Ironmongery and anti-trap hinges as standard

STANDARD DIMENSION

• 1950mm Standard Height (c/w 150mm leg) x 1500mm deep



CRACK RESISTANT



IMPACT RESISTANT



ABRASION RESISTANT



MOISTURE RESISTANT



SCRATCH RESISTANT



HEAT RESISTANT



EASE OF MAINTENANCE



RESISTANT TO CHEMICAL AND HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS



COLOUR FASTNESS Under Artificial Light

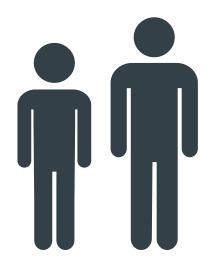


HYGIENIC SURFACE



FORCE

KEY STAGE 2 / KEY STAGE 3 AND ABOVE — AGE 7-11+



An effective, flexible and robust washroom solution that can be used as both a shower and toilet cubicle. Utilising vandal- and water-resistant Compact Grade Laminate and bolt through heavy-duty Satin Anodised Aluminium (SAA) ironmongery, the Force range is designed to withstand harsh and demanding environments.

The Force range also provides a broad range of aesthetic options – choose from over 50 diverse colour combinations to match or contrast the washroom environment.

SPECIFICATION

- 12.5 Compact Grade Laminate (CGL) doors, partitions and pilasters
- Black core with a radiused edge
- Satin Anodised Aluminium bolt through Ironmongery as standard

STANDARD DIMENSION

- 1950mm Standard Height (c/w 150mm leg) x 1500mm deep
- Non-standard dimensions are available on request.



CRACK RESISTANT



IMPACT RESISTANT



ABRASION RESISTANT



MOISTURE RESISTANT



SCRATCH RESISTANT



HEAT RESISTANT



EASE OF MAINTENANCE



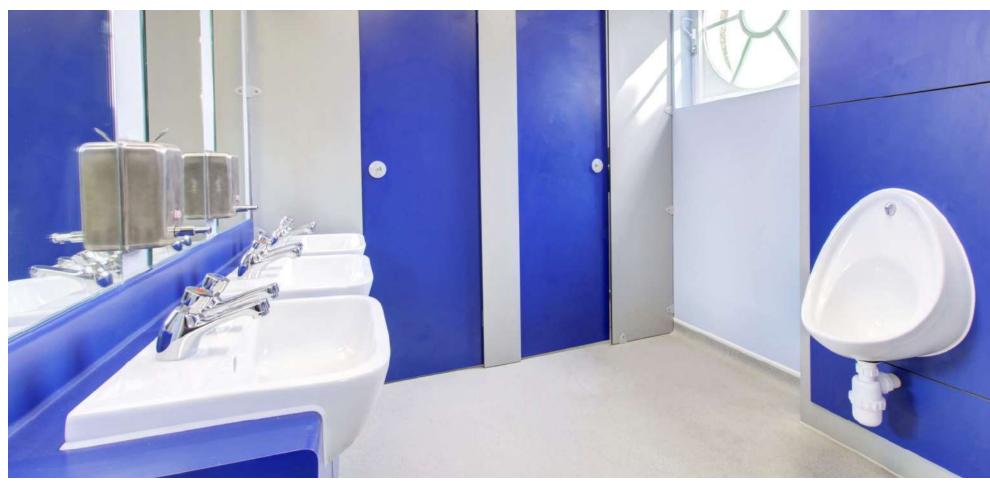
RESISTANT TO CHEMICAL AND HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS



COLOUR FASTNESS Under Artificial Light



HYGIENIC SURFACE







LAMINATE DUCT PANELS PITT

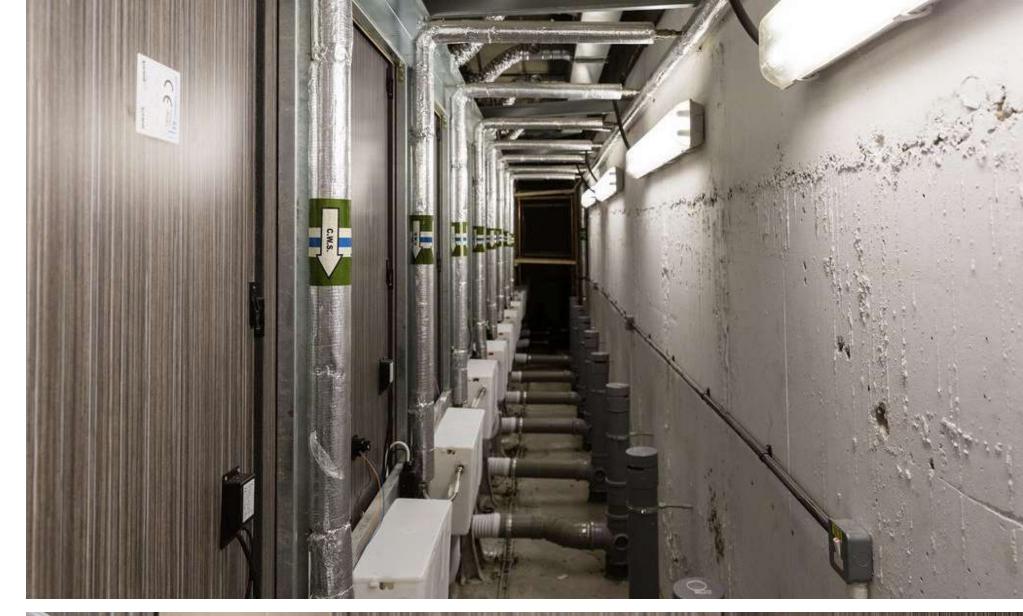


ALL AGE GROUPS

Designed to conceal pipework and cisterns behind urinals and WCs, laminate duct panels provide a stylish, and often cheaper, alternative to tiling.

Manufactured to match or complement our entire range of cubicles, lockers and benches – and designed with either hook or push on clips for extra security – laminate duct panels offer both aesthetics and functionality.

Other products can be used – but these are recommended.





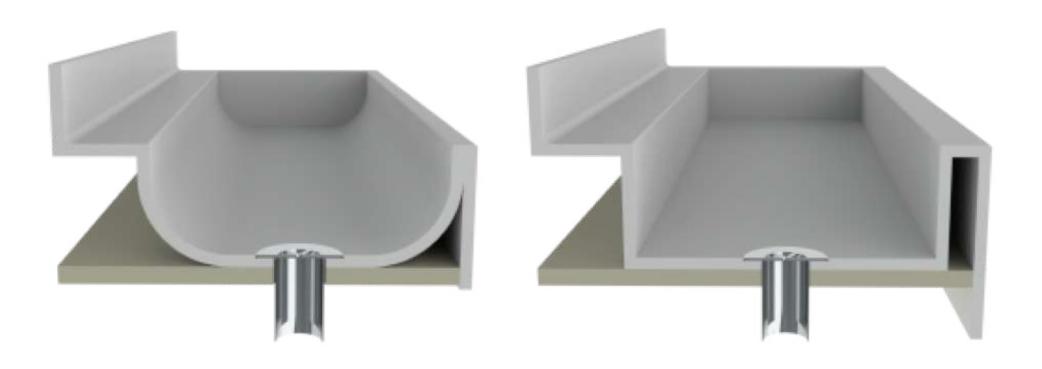
SOLID SURFACE WASH TROUGHS TIT

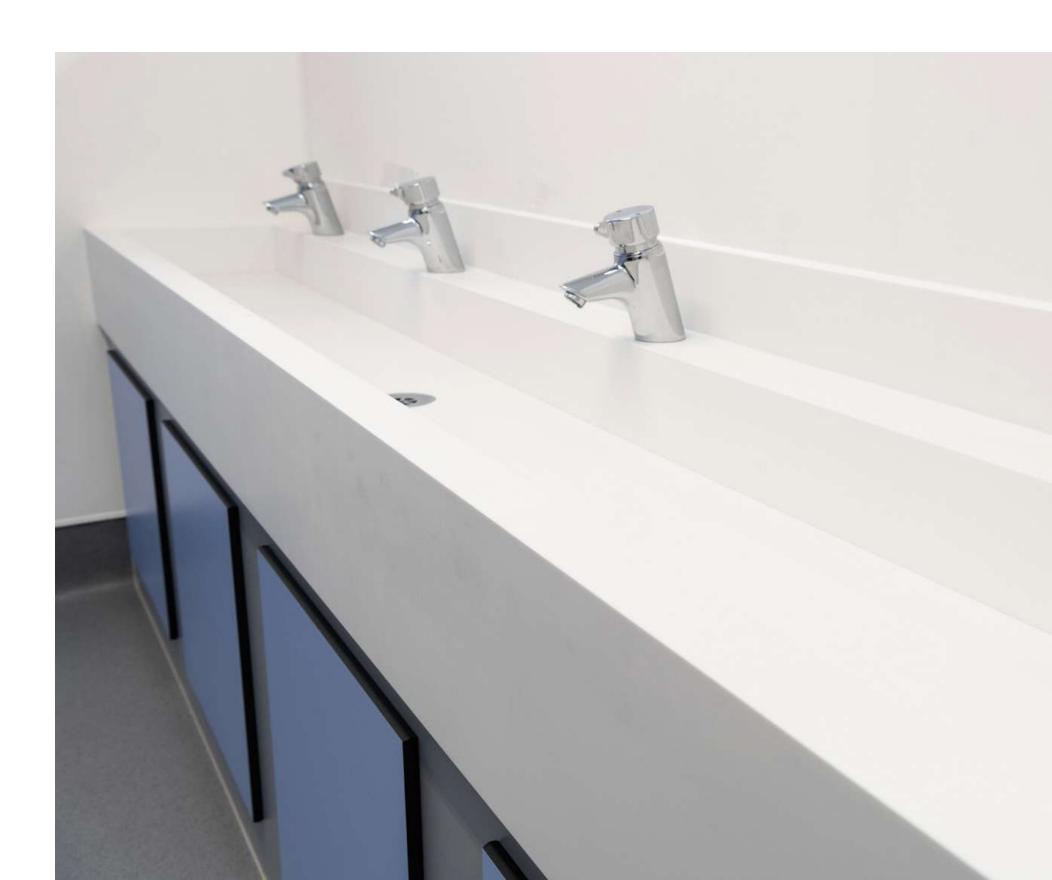
ALL AGE GROUPS

An excellent alternative to typical vanity units, Solid Surface Wash Troughs are crafted from acrylic and hand-finished for exceptional aesthetics, durability and performance.

Designed to accommodate either wall or deck mounted taps, these wash trough products can be adapted to suit any washroom environment.

Other products can be used – but these are recommended.









CASE STUDY THE RICHARD PATE SCHOOL

PROJECT

The Richard Pate School is a mixed, independent nursery and preparatory school for pupils aged 3-11. Located on the semi-rural outskirts of Cheltenham with state-of-the-art educational facilities, the school identified two washroom areas that needed an uplift to be brought into line with their modern surroundings.

Concept Cubicle Systems were approached by Cobus Spaces to provide a complete washroom supply and installation for the school's Nursery and Reception areas. They required a durable washroom solution that allowed for teacher supervision whilst maintaining student privacy.

PRODUCTS USED

- Juno
- Laminate Vanity Units
- Laminate Duct Panels

SOLUTION

Working with the contractor, we suggested our Juno washroom cubicle range for both toilet areas. Made from long-lasting Compact Grade Laminate (CGL), the range can be adapted to accommodate a wide range of door heights and partition shapes – perfect for nursery and primary school environments where pupils of different ages could use the facilities with ease.

Available in 50 colours suitable for washroom environments, the client specified a calming colour scheme for both areas. In the Nursery toilets, shaped partitions and its pilasters were in a soft neutral blue to complement the vivid blue arched doors with anti-trap hinges.







GET INTOUCH

CONCEPT CUBICLE SYSTEMS

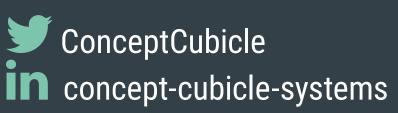
Based in the North West, we design, supply and install personalised washroom and cubicle system concepts nationwide – each one exclusively devised with the client in mind.

Our approach is built on a culture of trust and honesty, and underpinned by our passion for sensitive design. By using years of insight and the latest design thinking, we strive to make users feel comfortable, clean, and secure in the most intimate of spaces.

BESPOKE DESIGNS WITHIN STANDARDISED SPECIFICATIONS

We pride ourselves on our ability to deliver washroom solutions that exceed expectations in every aspect of functionality, performance and aesthetics. By offering bespoke designs within standardised specifications, we're able to respond directly to client needs with efficiency, precision and imagination, ensuring budgets are met, no matter how big or small.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST FREE ADVICE FOR YOUR PROJECT PLEASE CALL OUR SALES OFFICE ON +44 (0)33 0404 4895 OR E-MAIL US AT SALES@CONCEPTCUBICLESYSTEMS.CO.UK

