

The Forum

Project start date: March 2010

Project end date: May 2012



The Forum is a £48 million centrepiece for the Streatham Campus, home to the Student Services Centre, improved learning spaces and a new library, as well as retail and catering facilities. With such a big project, there could have been large potential for environmental impact. However, these were minimised through careful and considerate design and methodology in all aspects of the project.

Construction materials were re-used and recycled where possible and Green Guide 'A' rated materials incorporated at every opportunity. The building fabric and glazing used in the Forum has achieved a level of thermal performance 10% better than that required by building regulations, which helps to reduce energy use and CO₂ emissions. The building has achieved a BREEAM rating of 'Excellent' and an energy performance rating of 'B'.

Promoting Sustainable Travel

The development provides over a hundred extra cycle spaces, plus showers and lockers, to promote cycling and walking to campus, and the new piazzas have created a more pedestrian focus.

Protecting Biodiversity

Biodiversity on campus was monitored throughout the build and extensive measures taken to anticipate the effects of the development on the local ecology. Wherever possible, rare plants and trees were moved or carefully protected and new artificially-created wetlands were introduced to diversify habitats in the area.

Saving Water

Part of the building works included installing rainwater harvesting facilities and an underground storage tank. The rainwater reduces the use of water from the mains and supplies flush water for toilets.

Keeping carbon emissions down

The installation of air source heat pumps to extract heat from the outside air to heat the building, means that overall energy use is reduced. This has helped to keep carbon dioxide emissions for the Forum to less than 200 tonnes a year.



The finished Forum and Piazza