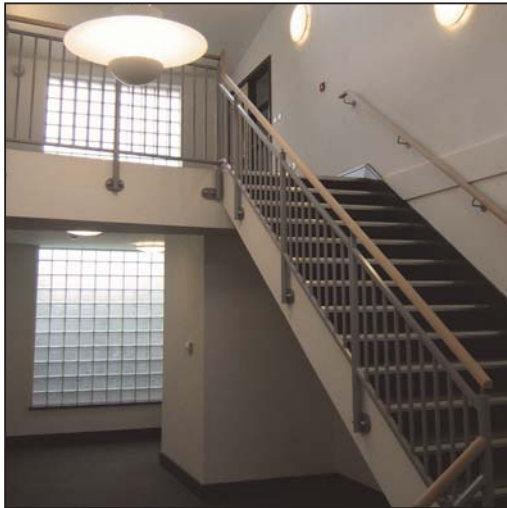




## Contemporary classroom and arts block for listed prep school



CONSERVATION

RESIDENTIAL

**EDUCATION/COMMUNITY**

HOTEL/LEISURE

HEALTHCARE

COMMERCIAL

Winchester House School now have a striking new two-storey building that greatly increases their educational facilities and provides a secure environment.

The Northamptonshire school has been a client of Acanthus Clews for nearly fifteen years during which time the practice has undertaken a number of schemes, including the pre-prep school, the upper quad, the art and CDT departments and the library refurbishment.

The latest building comprises six classrooms and a performing arts and debating forum. In addition the existing music block has been refurbished and new playground and soft play areas have been created.

The site was one of the only remaining possible areas for development and itself provided a number of challenges. Access was difficult and one side comprised the boundary of the property.

In effect the design wraps around the existing music block, in order to enhance the quality of the surrounding spaces and enliven the music block elevations.

Although the main school building is listed, the practice obtained planning consent after careful consultation with the local planning authority who support contemporary design within the site of these historic buildings.

There was widespread praise for the design from the school bursar and teaching staff alike, particularly given the scheme was completed and handed over on time and on budget.

The entire project is held up as a fine example of the benefits of excellent working relationships between the architects, consultants, main contractor and the client.