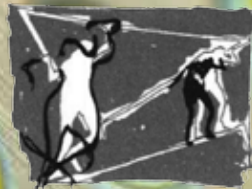


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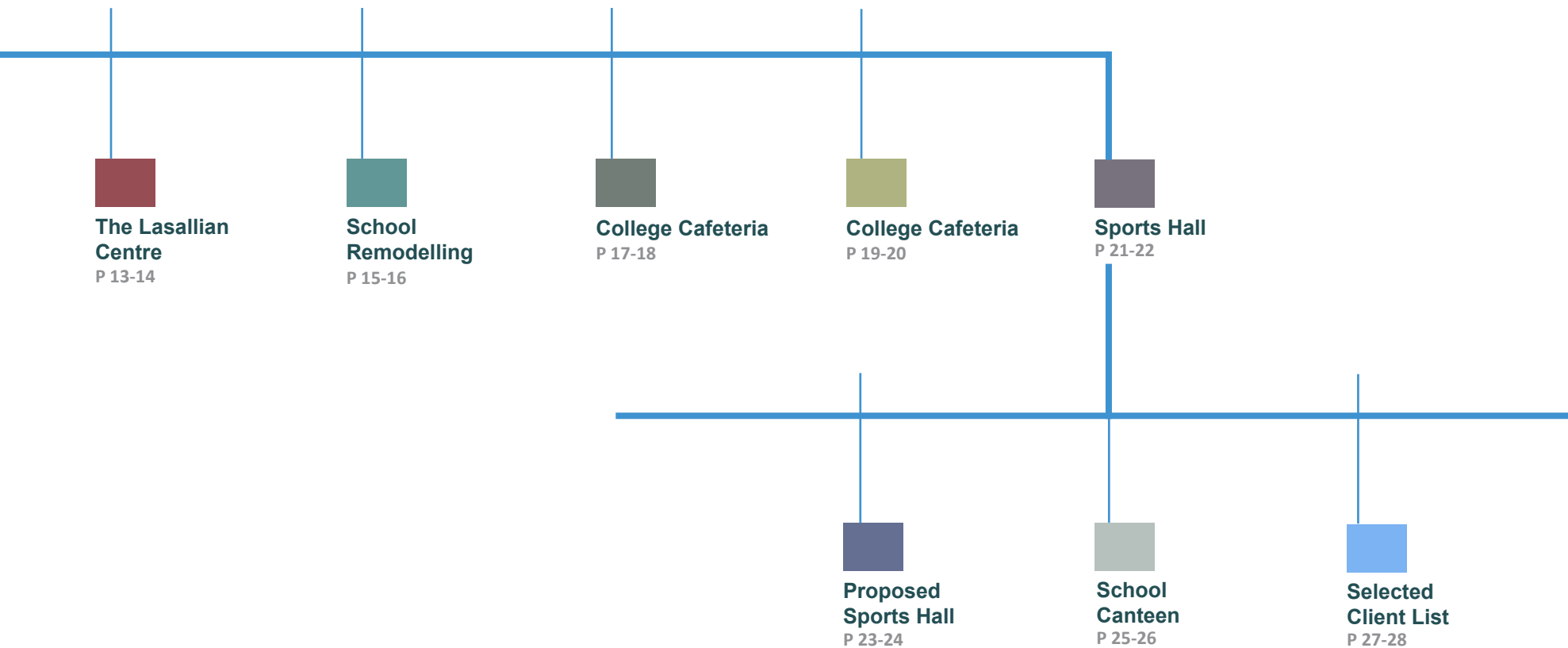
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About the Practice

Graham Rivers Architects is an RIBA Chartered Practice and since its formation in 1992 has become a specialist in the education sector. Our experience of sixth form buildings in particular is exceptional; there are few facilities that we have not built new or remodelled in existing premises.

We are a design-orientated practice, dedicated to the making of creative, stylish, and contemporary buildings and interiors. Regardless of use or size, our aim is to create buildings that meet the functional requirements of our clients with aspirational forms and materials that reflect our time.



Photo: Paul Smoothy



Education Specialists - We are a design-orientated practice,
dedicated to the making of creative, stylish, and contemporary buildings

Reception Building Birmingham

A new entrance and reception building commissioned to ease student congestion at the existing main entrance to a sixth form college. The new building links into a refurbished and re-planned social and cafeteria area from which several routes are available for dispersing students into the main college building.

The building has enabled the grouping of the college administration functions in one location and incorporates student services in a 'one stop' shop. Electronic barriers have been installed to ensure security of access is maintained at all times.



Photo: Richard Kiely



Photo: Richard Kiely



Photo: Richard Kiely

A new entrance and reception to ease student congestion at the existing main entrance.





The building uses a limited palette of materials with self-coloured render, and powdercoated aluminum windows and doors externally. Internally, the steel roof structure is exposed and integrated with the lighting system to give a clean and modern interior.





Photo: Richard Kiely

Reception Building Replacement Glazing London

This London sixth form college was originally a secondary school built in the late 1950s with an extensive Crittall curtain wall glazed frontage.

The entire frontage was removed and replaced with a new insulated glazed elevation in 8 weeks without any loss of teaching space and with minimal disruption. The new curtain wall glazing was designed with carefully selected clear and coloured glass to provide a contemporary elevation more suited to the aspirations of the college.

As part of this project, a new reception extension was provided to link the north and south blocks and provide a reception and new administration facilities.



Existing curtain wall upgraded with double glazing for increased thermal efficiency and a modern aesthetic



Photo: Paul Smoothy



Photo: Paul Smoothy



Photo: Paul Smoothy



Photo: Paul Smoothy



The frontage consists of a curving, seemingly frameless glass wall set below an extensive green roof and tiled plinth, separated by pale green steel columns.

A new passenger lift was incorporated in the scheme to provide new disabled access from the reception to the existing college hall.

The external front area was remodelled and landscaped to enhance the new reception and considerable care was taken to retain the existing trees without damage

Finally, the Performing Arts department was radically remodeled to provide a new recording studio, new drama studios with retractable seating, practice rooms and a music technology studio.





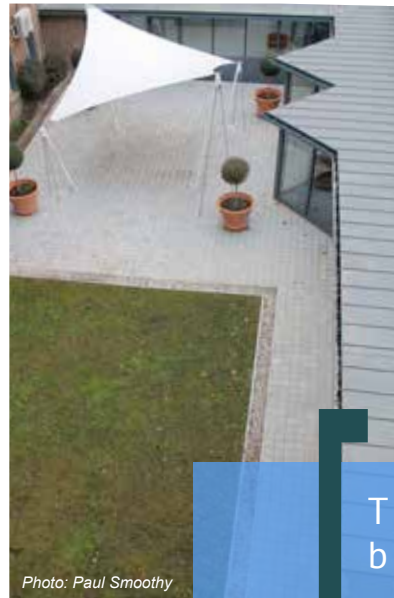
Photo: Paul Smoothy

Brise Soleil, extensive green roof and an air to water heat pump regulate the performance of the building for improved environmental performance

New Arts Block London

The project consisted of remodelling and refurbishing the existing art studios and design technology workshops, together with related IT classrooms, a new entrance and new corridor link to form a development around a reinvented quadrangle.

At upper levels, external access to previously isolated classrooms have been infilled with offices and a corridor to ensure internal access is available to all of the arts areas. A tensile canopy was installed in the quadrangle to provide an external covered area.



The glazed additions link the arts block to the main existing building



The angular facade allows for internal student meeting spaces



The Lasallian Centre

Trowbridge

Carefully positioned between three existing buildings, the multi purpose hall is a functional, yet elegant solution to the college's competing needs and limited budget.

Unassuming at first glance, the hall works like a Swiss Army Knife, providing a Sixth Form common room, lecture, conference and assembly space, as well as kitchen and disabled toilet facilities in alternate combinations.

The building maximises capacity and use, while contemporary heating and ventilation technology ensure long-term sustainability.



Photo: Ian Blantern



Photo: Ian Blantern



Photo: Ian Blantern



Movable acoustic walls, retractable seating and flexible storage create a dynamic building



School Remodelling Gloucester

The practice has been involved for a number of years with the improvement of the building stock at St Peter's High School, Gloucester.

We started this work with the English classroom block, built as a stand alone building in the 1960s, which has been remodelled with a combination of coloured cladding panels and curtain wall glazing.



The result is a radical transformation of a tired and dilapidated building, giving it a new lease of life.

The remodelling provides the template for the future refurbishment of the remainder of the original school. The remodelling and cladding of the main teaching and administration block, together with the Design and Technology classrooms soon followed which has rejuvenated the school.



Creating new buildings by re-using the old



College Cafeteria London

The project involved the re-planning and refurbishment of an existing cafeteria area, including purpose-designed furniture for the space.





The cafeteria was re-situated to enable direct access to the external terrace with outdoor seating and a tensile canopy

Part of the brief requested new external social space and this was met by the construction of a large timber slatted deck projecting beyond the natural topography. Cover was provided by a tensile fabric structure in association with Architen.

College Cafeteria London

As part of a general refurbishment and remodelling of a three storey section of a sixth form college, the existing cafeteria and kitchens were converted to administration offices and student services, while a new catering facility and kitchen were reestablished in the basement.



The project involved kitchen and space planning, interior design and the design of both loose and fixed benching and tables. A new terrace was formed externally and a bespoke tensile fabric canopy structure, designed by the practice, was installed.



Colour and lighting designed to create a sophisticated environment within an educational context

Sports Hall

London

A new sports hall on a tight wedge-shaped site constrained by a railway boundary and existing site buildings. The sports hall is built on two stories to suit the restrictions of the site with the upper level providing four badminton courts and spectator gallery, and the lower housing changing rooms, a fitness gym, café and ancillary accommodation.

The building was designed on a modular grid to control both structure and infill components. The grid brings simplicity of construction and contributes clarity and scale to the elevations.



Colour, contrasted with industrial materials enable a practical and modern sports centre for the college



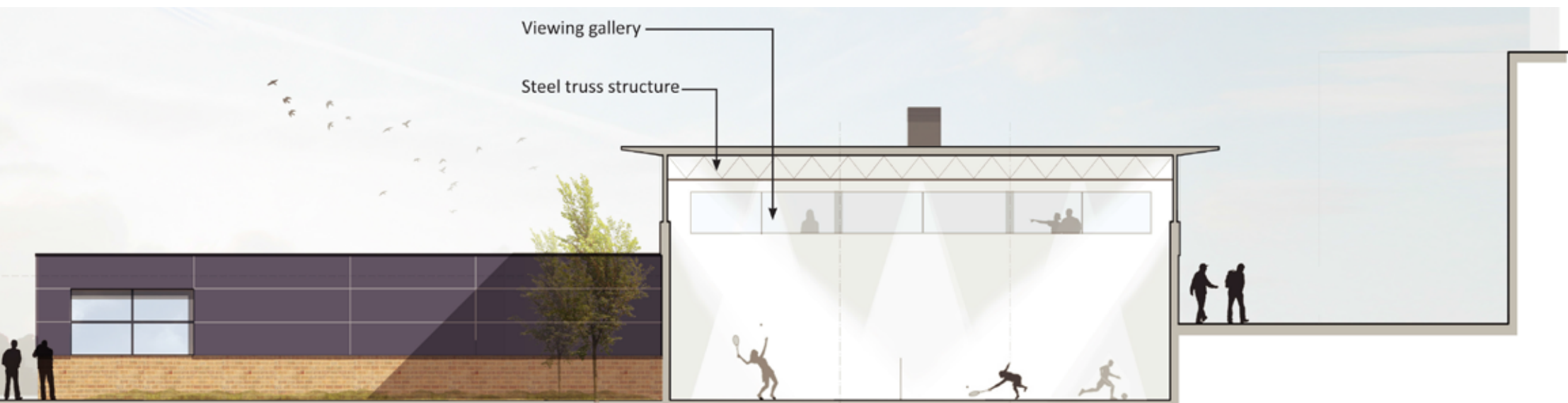


Proposed Sports Hall

Kent

The proposals comprise of a 'stand alone' new build sports hall at a sixth form college, consisting of a four badminton court hall, complete with viewing gallery, changing rooms and a multi gym facility.

Construction commenced late 2015 with completion in September 2016.



The hall will consist of a four badminton court hall, complete with viewing gallery, changing rooms and a multi gym facility.

The site is steeply sloping with significant retaining walls to the rear of the building. Materials proposed consist of dark coloured render, buff brickwork and Kalwall glazing systems to provide diffuse, natural lighting to the hall. Energy efficient design in terms of fabric, heating systems and natural ventilation will be part of the proposals.



School Canteen Dartford

Following on from our successful involvement with the refurbishment and extension of the Jagger Centre, in 2015 we completed a major extension and complete refurbishment of the Dartford School Canteen.

The work involved major structural alterations to provide a new extended open plan canteen area at the heart of the school, together with new toilets and laboratory.



The extension consists of a sleek frameless glass wall overlooking newly created external areas. An integrated landscape scheme has been provided, which when matured will provide a 'green wall' outlook to the new facilities.



A continuous, frameless glazed screen provides a seamless transition between inside and outside

Selected Client List

- Christ the King Sixth Form College, London
- Dartford Grammar School, Dartford
- St. Mary's Sixth Form College, Sidcup
- Aquinas Sixth Form College, Brockley
- Cadbury Sixth Form College, Birmingham
- St. Catherine's Catholic School for Girls, Bexleyheath
- St. Augustine's Catholic College, Trowbridge
- St. Peter's Catholic School, Gloucester
- St. Brendan's Sixth Form College, Bristol
- Martock C of E Primary School, Martock
- Holyrood Primary School, Swindon
- Rosery Primary School, Stroud
- St. Peter's Primary School, Chippenham
- Sommervale School, Midsomer Norton
- City Motors, Bristol
- Bristol Rovers FC
- National Blood Service
- National Museum and Gallery of Wales, Cardiff
- Stokeinteignhead Village Hall Committee
- Beach Lawns Nursing Home, Weston-Super-Mare
- Saville's Freights, Kingswood
- Diocese of Bristol
- Avon Plywood, Saltford
- Chescombe Trust, Bristol
- Casa Mexicana, Bristol
- Honiton Museum, Honiton
- Portland Bird Observatory, Portland
- Richer Sounds, Bristol

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