

Fernhill Primary School

Kingston Upon Thames, England

Award, Vepps & Vanity Units

Fun and practical washrooms designed to suit the needs of primary school children

The project.

Fernhill Primary School in Kingston Upon Thames underwent a complete redesign to incorporate new classroom facilities and larger play spaces to enhance student learning opportunities. The renovation included updating the playground toilets to create safe, bright and inviting spaces for the children to use during their breaks.

The challenge.

Originally built in 1994, the school washrooms were antiquated and hard for the facilities team to maintain. We worked with the school to ensure fit-for-purpose education washroom systems were specified to suit the needs of the younger children.

Our Accredited Installers, G Haslehurst Builders Ltd, were appointed to install the new school washrooms that were scheduled to open ahead of the new term. The washroom systems needed to be quick to install to adhere to the tight deadlines set out by the school in the initial brief.

The solution.

Award Low-Level toilet cubicles were specified for the school's new student washrooms, due to the reduced height of the doors and tailored safety features specific to the education sector. Award Low-Level is ergonomically designed to create an inviting environment for young children, with cubicle doors, locks and handles positioned at a lower height to allow young students to use the facilities independently while allowing adult supervision if necessary.

Award features clever anti-finger trap hinges to prevent small hands from accidentally being trapped in the doors. Emergency release indicator bolts come as standard and allow fast access to inside locked cubicles in the event of an emergency, without the need to damage or remove doors.

Primary school aged children are attracted to warm, lively colours like red, orange and yellow. With this in mind, the school combined 'Rouge' and 'Golden' for the cubicle doors, with partitions and pilasters in 'Pacific' to create a fun space.



The school toilet cubicles were specified in Solid Grade Laminate (SGL) as it's a scratch, impact and water-resistant material that guarantees durability and strength. SGL is ideal for these busy school playground toilets as it's a material that can withstand regular cleaning and the demands of heavy footfall, so the cubicles will continue to look and perform their best for years to come.

Vepps pre-plumbed panelling allowed the client to hand pick sector specific sanitaryware, brassware and fittings before they were factory fitted and tested at our manufacturing facility. This allowed for 50% faster onsite installation times compared to plain panel alternatives, which ensured deadlines were met.

The Vepps IPS panelling was specified with 'Hydrangea' panels and 'Porcelain' flashgaps to complete the colourful design of the washrooms. Vepps features 90° linear bearing hinges to make ongoing maintenance easy, allowing quick access to concealed duct space without the need to manually remove panels.

Fernhill Primary School also opted for our High Pressure Laminate (HPL) K2 profile vanity units in matching colours to the cubicles. The semi-recessed basins allow the children to get up close to the basin reducing the distance to reach the taps, making hand washing simple and less messy.