

PATNA & ST XAVIER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, AYRSHIRE



LOCATION: AYRSHIRE
CLIENT: EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
VALUE: £8M
SIZE: 3,677M2
COMPLETION: 2012
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS: URS SCOTT WILSON
SERVICES ENGINEERS: DAVID & MCCULLOCH
CDM CO-ORDINATOR: BROWN AND WALLACE
QS: ARMOUR CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS
CONTRACTOR: HERON BROS

The Patna & St Xavier's Primary school design was required to provide two local primary schools on a shared campus with nursery, shared sports facilities and a local housing office. The design also required to link the facilities to an existing library and existing community centre. These existing buildings were to be and have been refurbished. There was also the constraint of an existing sports hall on the site.

The design provides a main admin entrance for the school and separate entrances for the library and community centre, but there are also separate canopy covered pupil entrances for the nursery, St Xavier's, Patna Junior and Patna Senior. These canopies provide covered external play space and all classrooms have access onto external classroom space in the form of enclosed courtyards. The shared facilities of science, arts, gym and dining areas are designed to be used by the community outside school hours.



The roofs have been designed to provide clearstorey light into the circulation areas and give deep daylight penetration into classrooms. Each classroom has a section of floor to ceiling glazed screens giving physical and visual links to external play space.

The surrounding development is mainly residential with wall finishes of selected common brick and rendered porches. The sports centre is a large grey corrugated metal shed. The external finishes of the school reflects the local materials with a selected common type facing brick, moss green zinc coated aluminium fascias, grey aluminium roof.

The refurbished library and community centre which previously had panels of render and patched facing brick have been overlaid, insulated and rendered with a dark red render to contrast with the new school. The school has blue black aluminium clad windows and doors with the structural columns expressed in bright red.

Handover was achieved on programme at the end of the school year, allowing fit out over the summer and the children to enter the school at the start of the new school year. The old school was stripped of asbestos and demolition commenced to use the site of the old school for the playing fields for the new school.

