



Project Fact File



University of Hertfordshire



VRS Laboratory, which included the Installation of a new mezzanine floor and lift.

Project Manager

Turner & Townsend

Location

Hatfield, Herts

Value

£1.9 million

Programme

15 weeks

Architect

Moses Cameron Williams (Concept)
The Barnard Partnership (Project)

Pexhurst are delighted to have completed a major refurbishment of the atrium at the University of Hertfordshire, creating a student social and study space.

This refurbishment for the University of Hertfordshire was the first in a massive redevelopment plan being launched by the University over the coming year. The atrium was identified as the heartbeat of the University and as such the pressure was on to get it right.



The installation turned an unheated transit area into a multi-purpose working, teaching and relaxation environment. A steel mezzanine floor tied into the existing concrete wall created an informal teaching area at first floor level. The floor was insulated and fitted with underfloor heating, with Interface floor tiles providing the finish. The mezzanine perimeter was protected by a bespoke glass balustrade designed to withstand a 1.5 Kn loading, finished with a polished oak handrail. Other ironmongery in the project included the Alite range by Allgood.

A bespoke oak staircase formed a central and unifying design feature. Glazed external walls were created from a Sapa aluminium and glass curtain walling system. This provided the required U Value together with a clean, crisp aesthetic that was echoed throughout the interior design scheme. The completed project delivered a high quality contemporary space for students to congregate as well as study. The £1.9m Design and Build contract required Pexhurst to work 24/7 throughout the summer to deliver the finished building ready for the autumn term in September.

