

King George V School Kowloon, Hong Kong

Completion August 2022

Project Type Education

Client English Schools Foundation (ESF)

Main Contractor Hon Fung

Value HK\$12m

Retrofit Type

Critical Infrastructure - Education

Inclusion and Accessibility

The renovation of the Design and Technology classrooms at King George V School as part of the ESF's ongoing schools improvement works programme.



The classrooms had not been renovated in over 30 years, and were identified for renovation in alignment with an international best practice approach to teaching spaces.

Retrofit strategy

The existing structure was retained with new openings formed to relocate access doors to and from classrooms and to improve circulation to external spaces.

The existing spaces, structure, escape routes, building services and circulation planning all needed to be clearly established early on to set the constraints of the project.

Every student in the facility carries a laptop so there was a requirement to supply everyone with access to power and data points. Balancing this with the need to accommodate larger tools and practical equipment while space planning was a challenge.

The classrooms were zoned into write up and workshop areas. This helped set out the respective furniture, fittings and equipment.



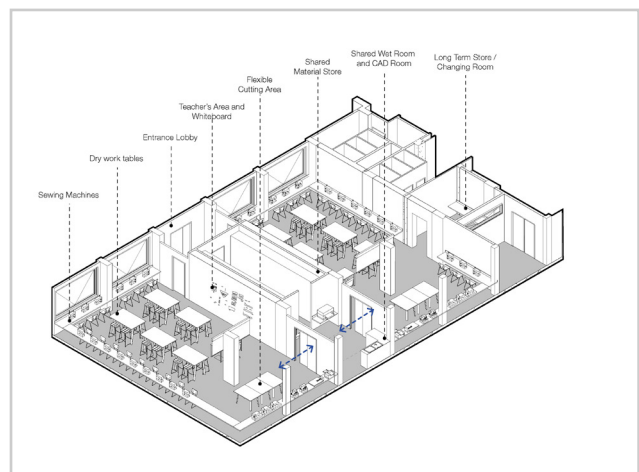
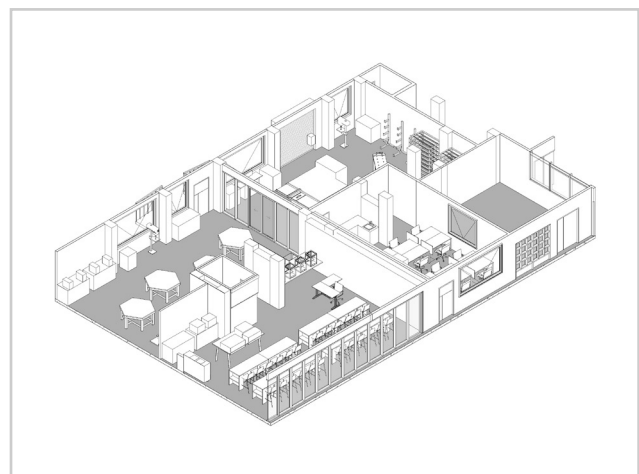


It also assisted in assessing health and safety requirements including space considerations, emergency controls and escape routes.

A preparation workshop was also designed with a clear glazed separation to one of the three classrooms. This provides visual sight lines which improves safety through enhanced teacher observation.

Careful design and programming of works was required to ensure they could be undertaken during the summer holiday period. Time was a critical driver with the facility needing to be available for the start of the new academic year.

The renovation has extended the life of critical educational infrastructure, as well as improving the student experience and safety through better facilities and equipment. This was delivered without disruption to the usual teaching schedule of the school.



Lessons Learnt

A thorough understanding of the existing accommodation within the building was required. This was focused around teaching spaces and those required for building services to facilitate the installation of upgraded primary air handling plant.

Programme planning and efficient time management were key to successfully delivering the renovation works. Long lead in times and particular consideration of supply chain capacity and readiness should be taken during the procurement of future projects of this nature.