

# NEW ASSEMBLY HALL KING JOHNS SCHOOL, BENFLEET



The scheme was to construct a new assembly hall with a stage, store rooms and a dedicated AV (Audio Visual) room with seating for up to 400 people.

The building is of a pentagon shape consisting of strip foundations and a leaning steel frame structure. The floor is of a block and beam construction with an insulated screed on top. The inner leaf of the building is blockwork with a studwork partition on the inside.

The bottom part of the external leaf is brickwork as well as the five corners of the building. The rest of the building is cladded with insulated panels.

The roof has a metal deck with an insulated single ply membrane with an acoustic suspended ceiling, installed with numerous stage lighting bars protruding through. The air source heat pump was installed to heat and cool the building.

The new assembly hall is linked to the existing school by a 3m wide corridor that was formed between the existing two storey school building.

**CLIENT** King John School  
**ARCHITECT** Munday and Cramer  
**VALUE** £1.1m  
**PERIOD** 35 weeks



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Internally the fit out included dry lining to the internal Metsec studwork walls, plastering with bespoke joinery screens and door sets. The floor has been covered with a Marmoleum finish that matches in with the floor covering to the stage. At high level to the windows electric blinds have been installed that provide complete blackout. To the rear of the stage and the wings of the stage curtains are hung. Retractable Bleacher seating is installed to provide seating for 400 hundred children and adults. There was also 2 viewing gantrys at each end of the hall where the lighting can be controlled from.

### Site Specific Issues.

A bird cage was built from the scaffolding due to the M&E package. The cage had to be high enough to do the wall high level M&E works. The scaffolding took up a lot of space in the hall and we had to work around it, therefore a lot of careful planing was involved when certain aspects of the job were to be completed.

During the project we offered the client various alternatives to ensure that we met all timescales as well as keeping within the budget and specification:

- We put a liquid DPM on the screed so we could lay the vinyl due to limited drying conditions.
- We changed the high level plasterboard and skim boxings to MDF to reduce the drying time and lined the M&E cupboards so that we could get the power on and handover the medical room areas before the school opened up again in september.
- We reduced the bird cage scaffold in the main hall so we progress with building 4 new store rooms including the screed so we could keep the programme running on time.

