

Laboratory case study

Headington School Oxford

Contractor | Innova Design solutions
Timescale | 6 weeks on site
Architect | Innova Design Solutions



Founded in 1915, Headington School is an independent girls' school committed to providing a stimulating and enriching environment for teaching and learning through first-class facilities and resources.



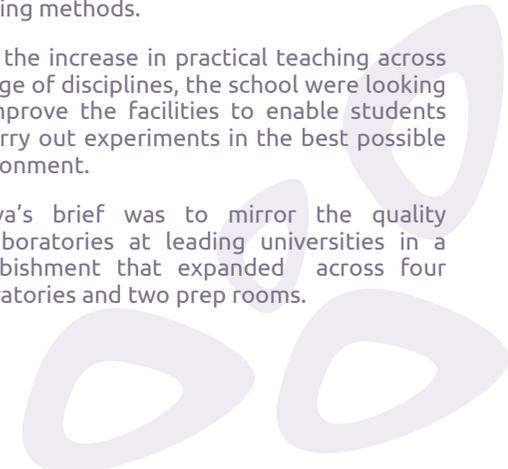
Brief

Over the last decade, Headington has invested a significant amount in enhancing their facilities and as part of the refurbishment works, the school were looking to modernise the existing labs.

Science is a key strength at Headington School and whilst the science faculty building has been constructed fairly recently, the labs no longer met the needs of modern teaching and learning methods.

With the increase in practical teaching across a range of disciplines, the school were looking to improve the facilities to enable students to carry out experiments in the best possible environment.

Innova's brief was to mirror the quality of laboratories at leading universities in a refurbishment that expanded across four laboratories and two prep rooms.



Carcase | Manufactured from 18mm MF MDF
 Worktops | Velstone
 Edging | ABS Colour matched edging

Seating | Ergonomic stools
 Handles | Zinc alloy D handles
 Hinge | 240° pivot safety hinges



Solution

Innova provided a full turnkey solution, including design, manufacture and installation of all furniture as well as M&E works, flooring, ceilings, decoration, heating and extract. The teaching staff were an integral part of the design process. Innova interpreted their ideas to create unique layouts for both biology and chemistry disciplines, giving teachers the freedom to tailor learning environments to their needs.

The chemistry labs were installed with Innova's wing layout to give teachers greater control of the learning environment whilst shortening communication lines. With services located on the front face of the benching, this layout allows room for theory lessons, but easy access to gas and electric points for practical sessions.

A pebble pod layout has transformed the biology labs into a professional workplace. This concept has the flexibility to adapt to a range of teaching needs and curriculum requirements, allowing students to work in smaller groups whilst having access to gas and electric services on the front face of each unit.

Two open plan prep rooms offer a spacious environment for lesson preparation and storage. Perimeter units provide a safe, secure storage solution whilst a central preparation desk gives technicians space to set up practical lessons.

High quality, low maintenance materials such as Velstone solid surface, creates a modern yet timeless feel to a science department designed to inspire future generations of scientists.