

burmatex®

Architect siblings go 'back to school' with burmatex

The recent 300 sqm refurbishment of a Derby sixth form centre proved once again how burmatex's [structure bonded](#) ranges [lateral](#), [zip](#) and [code](#) can be used to create an ultramodern and sophisticated education interior, after they were specified for their ability to fulfil the brief set by Matthew Montague Architects.

Architect Matthew Montague and his sister Jane, Interior Designer within the practice, have a 10 year history of working with Saint Benedict's School and were in fact even pupils at the school. They had used burmatex carpet tiles in previous phases of the school's refurbishment but were particularly interested in the new [structure bonded](#) products from burmatex, owing to their bright citrus colour palette and green credentials.

"We were looking for a flooring range that would complement the modern furniture and wall finishes that we had chosen to lift the look of the new sixth form centre, in order to appeal to the sixth formers that use it. The new ranges from burmatex answered the brief and fitted perfectly with the scheme we devised" explained Jane Montague.

The architect and flooring contractor, Hillside Contracts, worked closely with burmatex's in-house design team who produced a plan view of the scheme. This was then translated into the impactful and modern interior that has wowed the students and staff at Saint Benedict's. Commenting on the installation, Chris Goode of Hillside Contracts said: "The architect didn't want anything plain and the plan view that came from burmatex was anything but! We have worked with burmatex on many occasions but mostly on commercial office projects. We are finding that with the burmatex ranges interiors designers have been allowed to be more and more daring and creative. The scheme at Saint Benedict's wouldn't look out of place in a new modern office fit-out, highlighting the convergence of design in these two sectors".

burmatex identified the similar demands of these two sectors in the conceptualisation of the [structure bonded](#) stable of products. Price point was a factor, as was durability and increasingly, sustainability. But it was essential that satisfying those criteria wasn't at the expense of aesthetics and design content. The design team took an old

education and commercial office favourite, the fibre bonded carpet tile (or needlepunch), and developed the traditional manufacturing techniques to create the [structure bonded](#) ranges. By observing trends in modern furniture design, other interior finishes and even fashion, in the UK, across Europe and further afield, burmatex came up with a product that was both on trend and current but with time-tested characteristics.

“At burmatex innovation is as much about the products we make as it is in the way we make them. The [structure bonded](#) stable of products is a great example of this. We’ve worked tirelessly to improve factory efficiencies, the energy we use and the materials we source. This has all resulted in a great-looking, quality product that makes as little impact on the environment as possible, with cost benefits we can pass on to our customers. Our efforts were rewarded recently when an assessment by the Building Research Establishment rated most of our products as A+ or A for use in education, commercial and public buildings, confirming their sustainability”, said Viv Lee, Senior Designer at burmatex.