

Welcome to this exhibition, which provides information on the University's development proposals for a new STEM Teaching Building at Highfield campus.



We are investing in this new facility to create an environment that:-

- Provides students and staff with modern, fit for purpose laboratory STEM (Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) teaching spaces.
- Encourages and promotes access for all users.
- Provides a high quality and attractive building that will enhance the appearance of the campus.
- Provides and enhances the public realm and green spaces.

Site Context

The development site is located in the North West quadrant of Highfield Campus. The surrounding context consists of institutional buildings and student accommodation varying from 2-6 storeys.

At present the development site is an unattractive area of Highfield campus, which is used for a temporary modular teaching building and some visitor parking.





The aspiration

The development replaces a temporary unattractive modular teaching building, adjacent to the Gower visitor car park and is intended to create an attractive and welcoming entrance to the Highfield campus, establishing a much needed presence off Burgess Road.

Building on the success of new teaching and research facilities at University of Southampton, this building will provide much needed collaborative laboratory teaching environments.

The provision of flexible teaching labs enables multi faculty teaching in high quality industry standard space.



Centenary Building at Highfield Campus



CGI of NEQ (Building 75) Development at Highfield Campus



Multi faculty STEM teaching

A multi-faculty building with facilities to cater for teaching a wide range of STEM subjects.



Dynamic & flexible

A flexible, accessible and inclusive building that allows for growth and adapts to the future of pedagogy.



Welcoming building

A welcoming entrance to the campus that is accessible and inclusive for all users.



Student experience

High-quality industry standard laboratory teaching with spaces to collaborate and socialise.



Climate resilience

Robust building and landscape design principles safeguard long term building performance in a changing climate.



Site Layout



1

Welcoming entrance

High-quality design and generous ground floor glazing, showcasing STEM teaching.

2

Improved landscape

Creation of a new rich green space to improve the north west corner of the campus.

3

Campus connection

Improved safe pedestrian connections between Burgess Road and Salisbury Road and into the rest of Highfield campus.

4

Collegiate quad

Finishes the courtyard edge and continues the street frontage line along University Road.

5

Retention of existing trees

Existing trees along University Road and around the site perimeter are retained, with new trees planted.



Landscape plan & servicing

The proposed landscape will transform the existing visitor car park into an attractive area of Highfield campus. The proposals create a pedestrian friendly environment and bring nature into the square.



New native trees



Hard landscaping tying into the campus



Bring nature close to people

1

Servicing

The car park area works hard to maintain clear service access to the Gower Building residents and the new STEM building.

2

Green space

New trees and diverse planting give massive boosts to local ecology and bring nature closer to students, staff and visitors.

3

Retained visitor parking

Electric vehicle charging points are retained in the car park and blue badge spaces are provided.



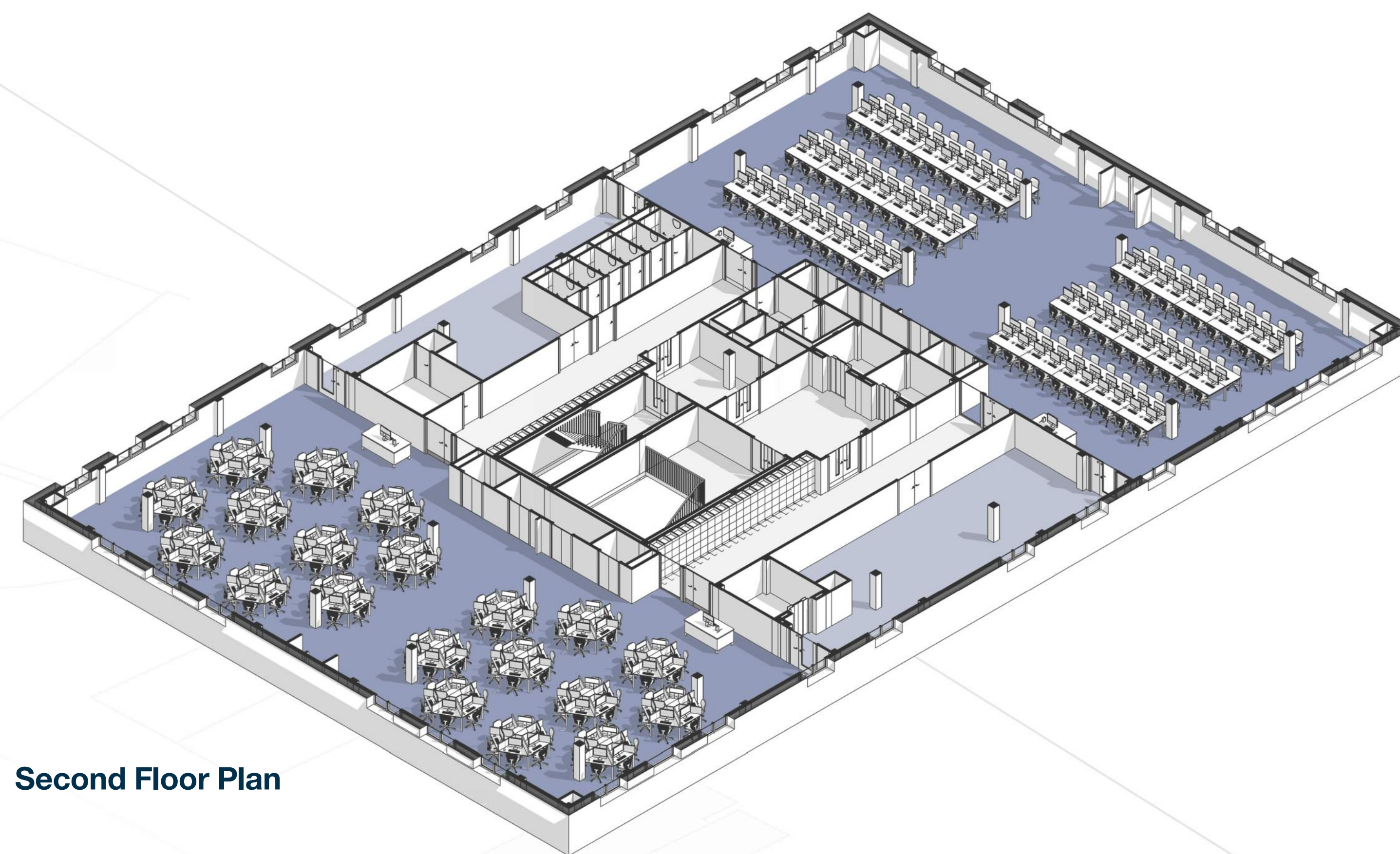
Internal spaces

Teaching and Learning

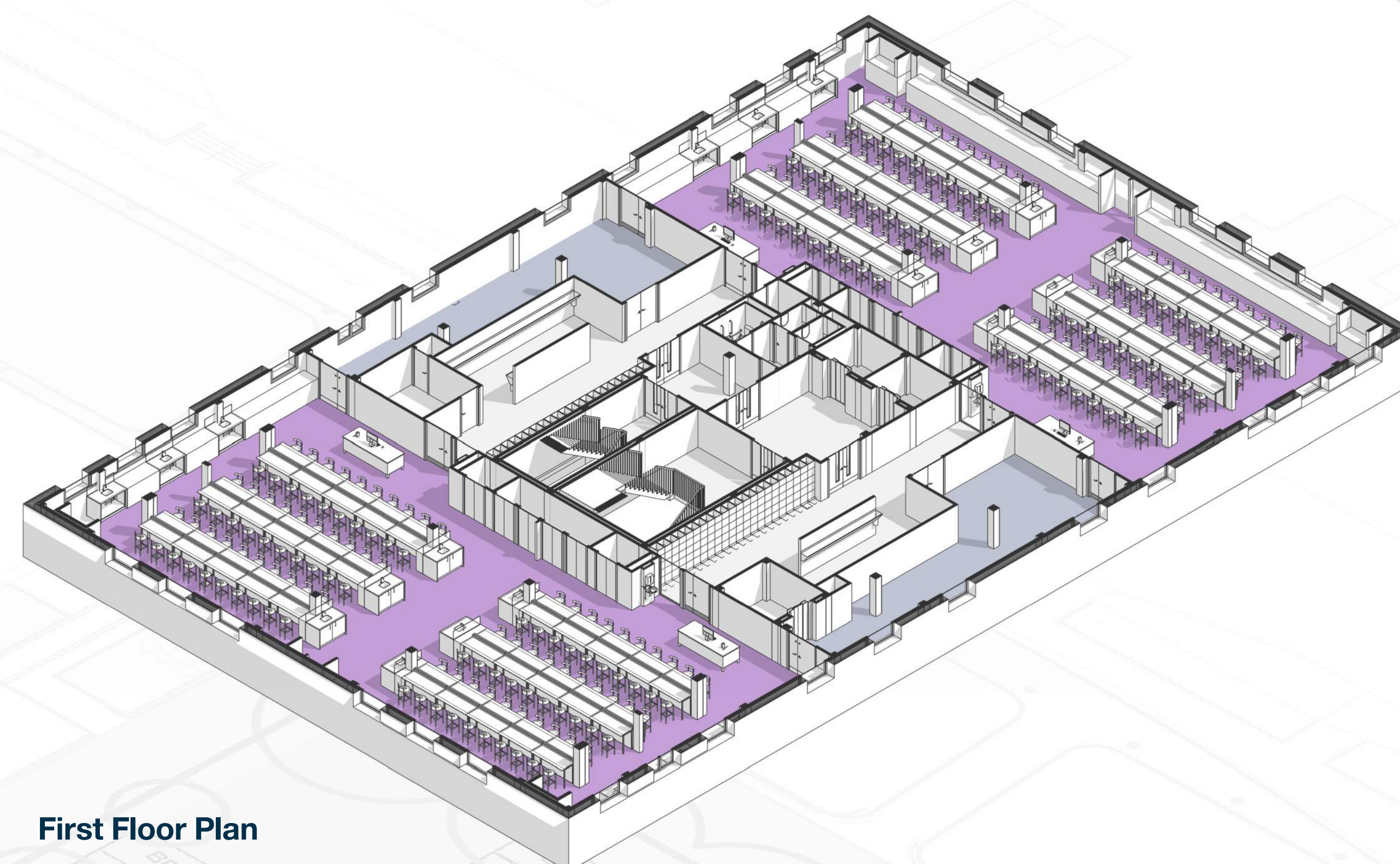
- Cross faculty wet laboratory teaching
- Computer teaching laboratories
- Prep space & technical support

Independent study

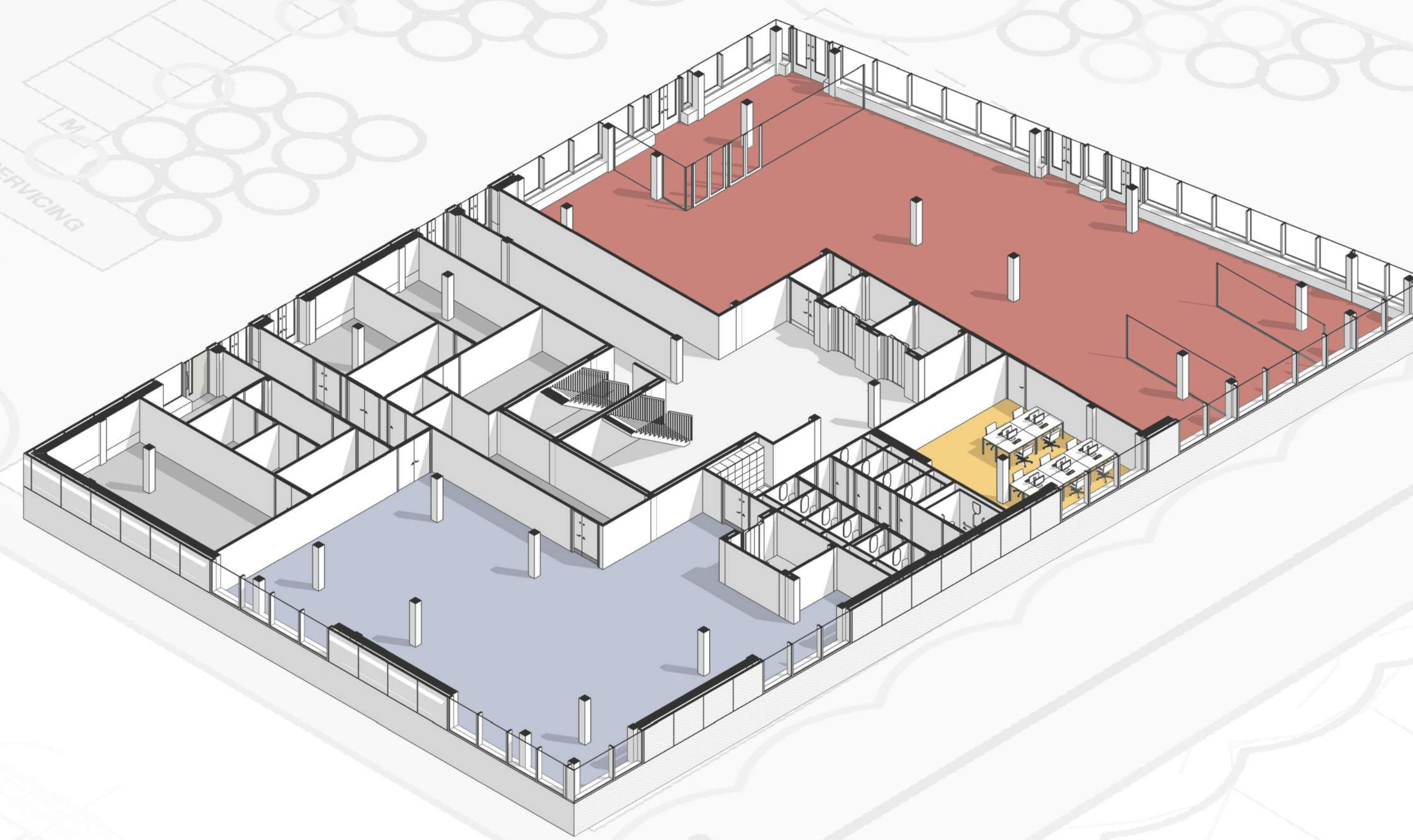
- Complementary space to support the students using the teaching laboratories.



Second Floor Plan



First Floor Plan



Ground Floor Plan



Computer labs



Wet lab teaching

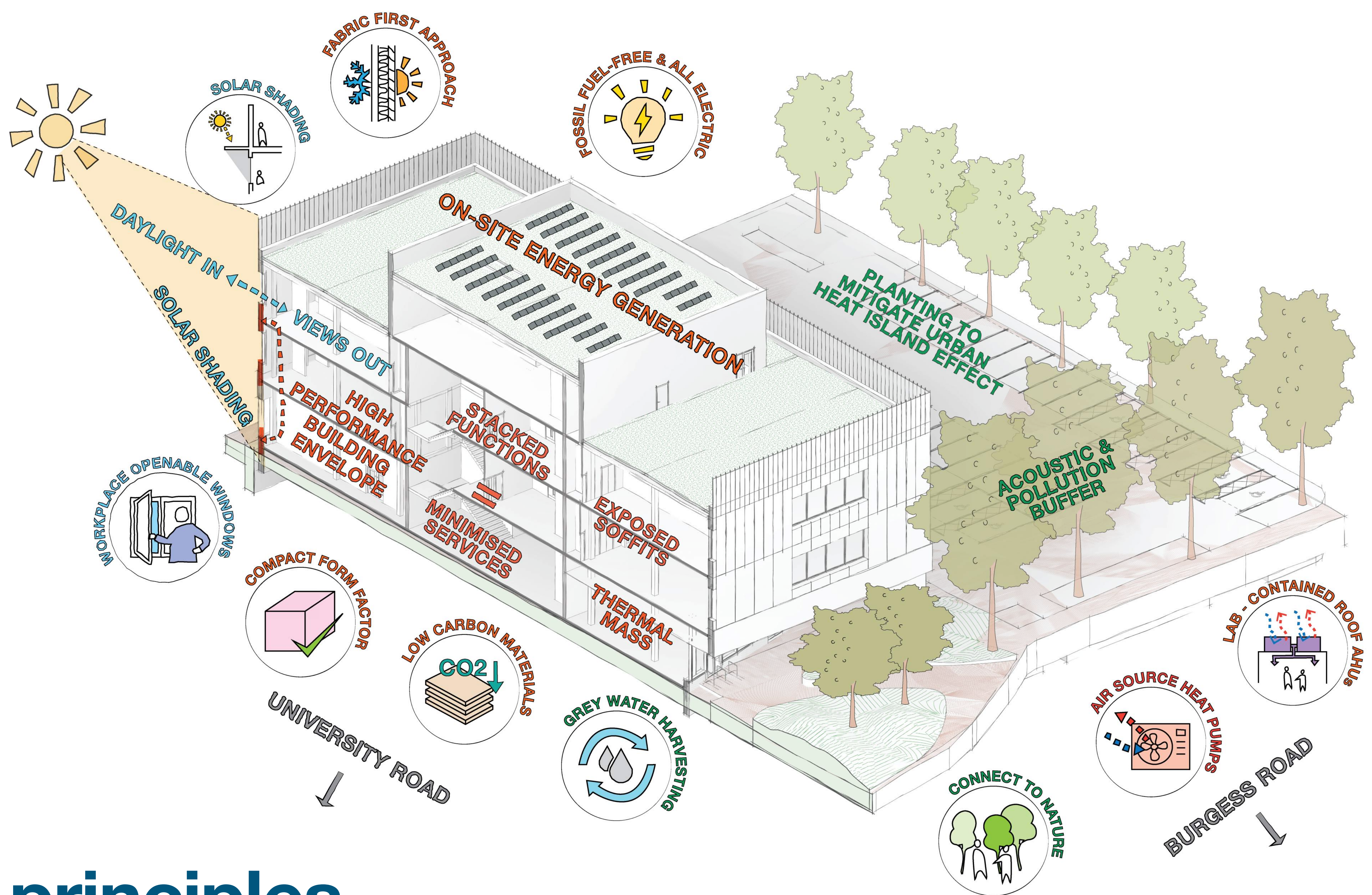


Project rooms

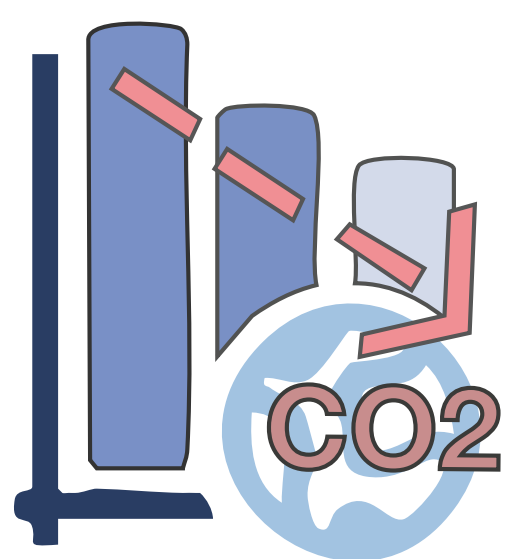


Sustainability

The design team has taken an iterative and analysis-led approach, using sustainability KPIs to review and refine the project as it develops. Daylight, climate modelling, comfort testing, material impacts and carbon assessments have shaped the design at each step. Close collaboration across the team has helped turn this analysis into clear design outcomes.



Key principles



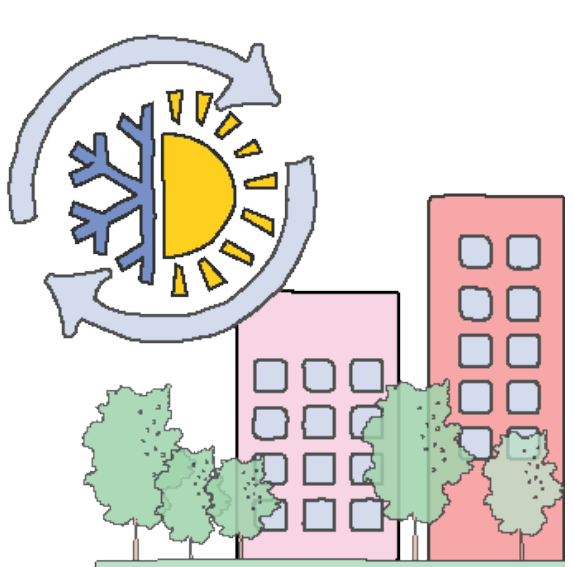
CLIMATE AND ENERGY

- Low energy use and heating demand
- On-site solar renewables
- Low-carbon construction
- Fossil-fuel-free building systems



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- Social amenity and connections to nature
- Natural daylighting
- High indoor air quality: post-completion testing
- Acoustic control



RESILIENCE & NATURE

- Designed against future climate profiles to mitigate over-heating
- Rainwater attenuation
- Green roofs and habitat creation

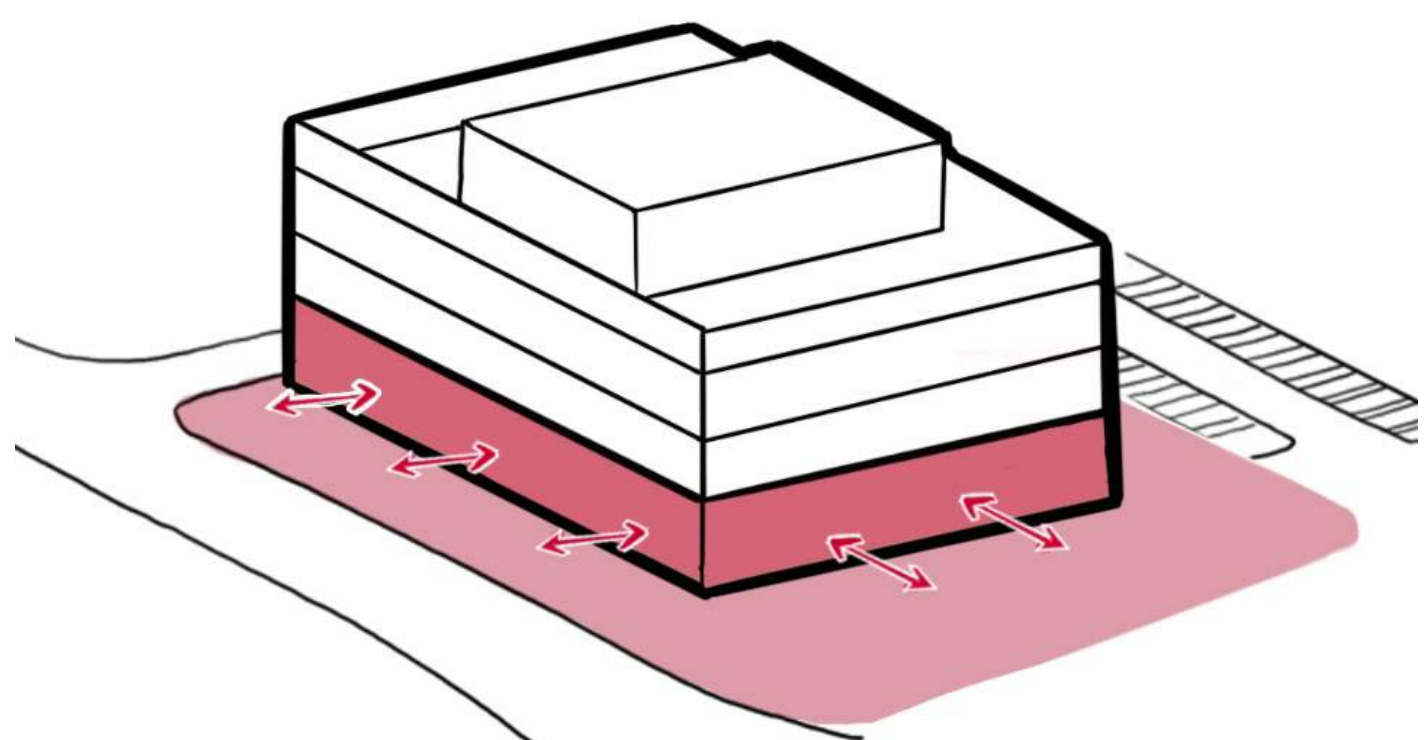


SOCIAL VALUE & ACCREDITATION

- Real Living Wage supply chain
- Local employment & local spend (>10%)
- Circular materials: reused / recyclable content
- Targeting BREEAM Excellent

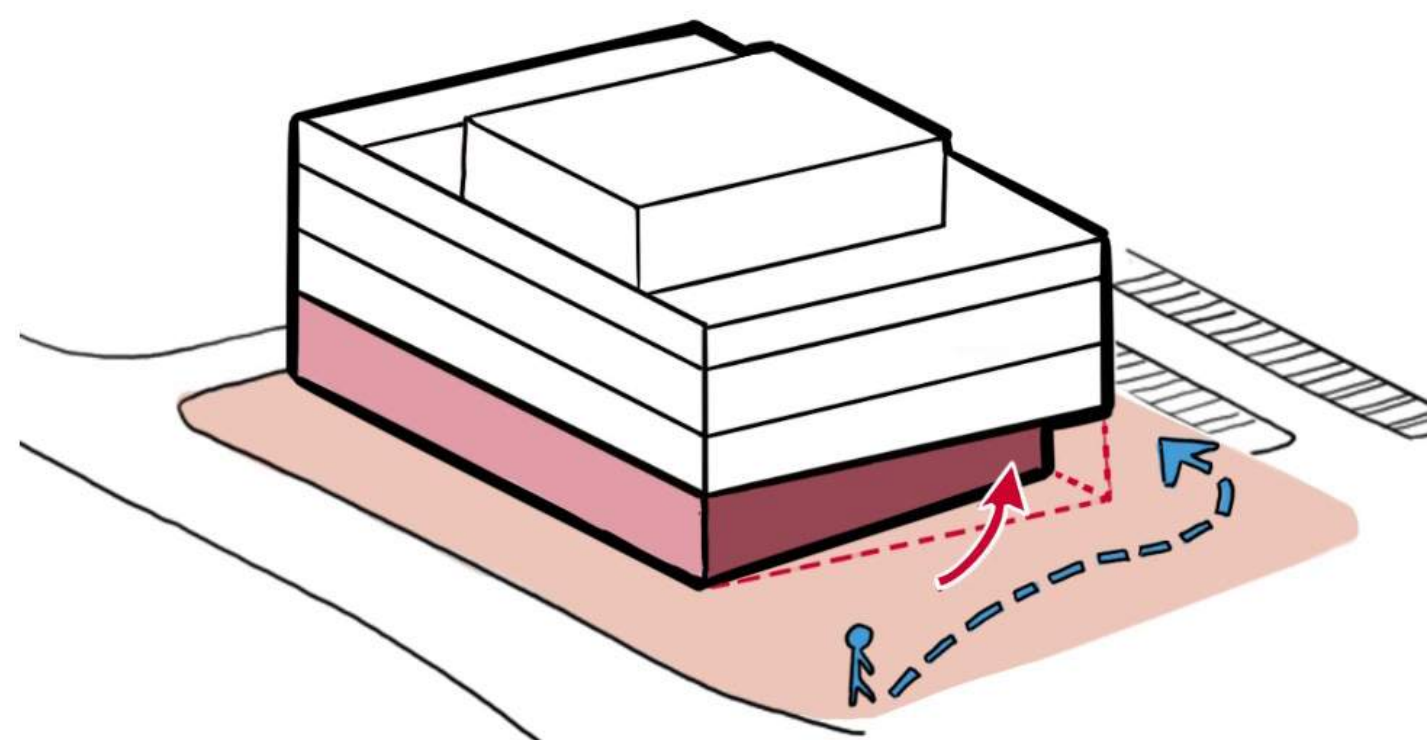


Appearance & key moves



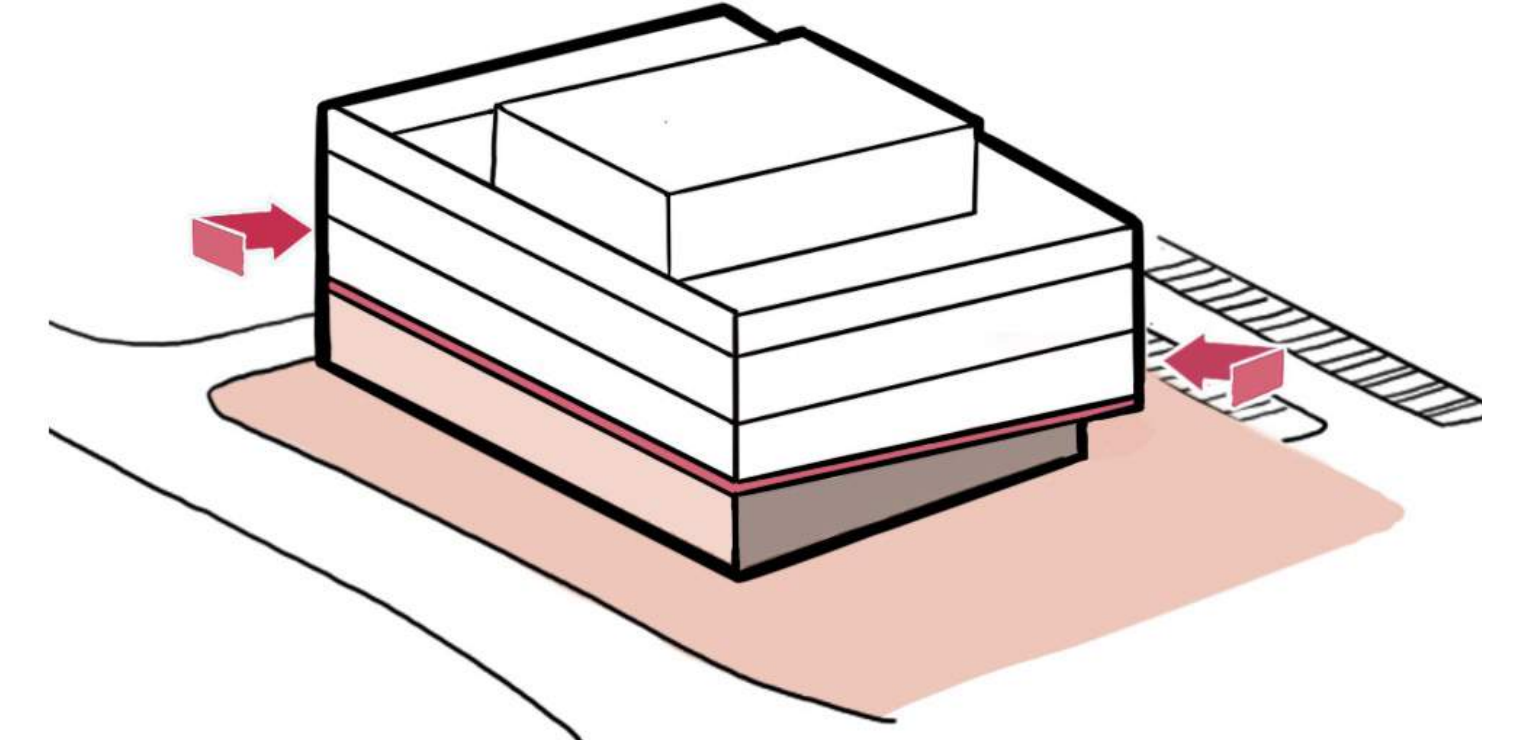
Distinct Characters

Change in façade treatment at ground floor to embed into context.



Ground floor chamfer

The chamfer draws pedestrians towards the campus centre, on a desire line to the Centenary Building and bus station.



360 identity

A ground floor datum that continuously wraps around façade.

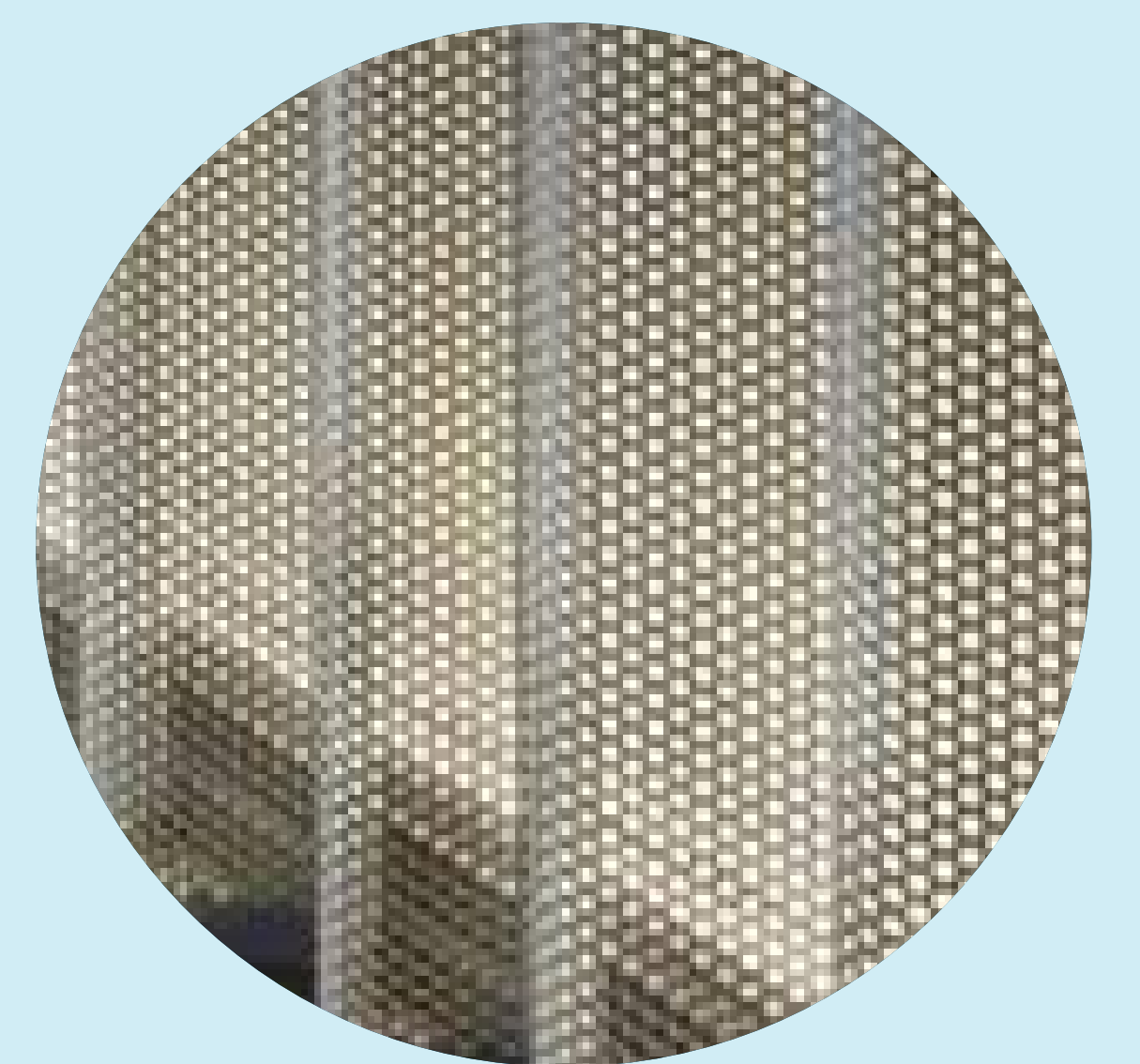
Elevational treatment



Pigmented concrete plinth, to match planters within landscape proposals.



Sinusoidal aluminium rainscreen cladding with an anodised finish to upper floors.

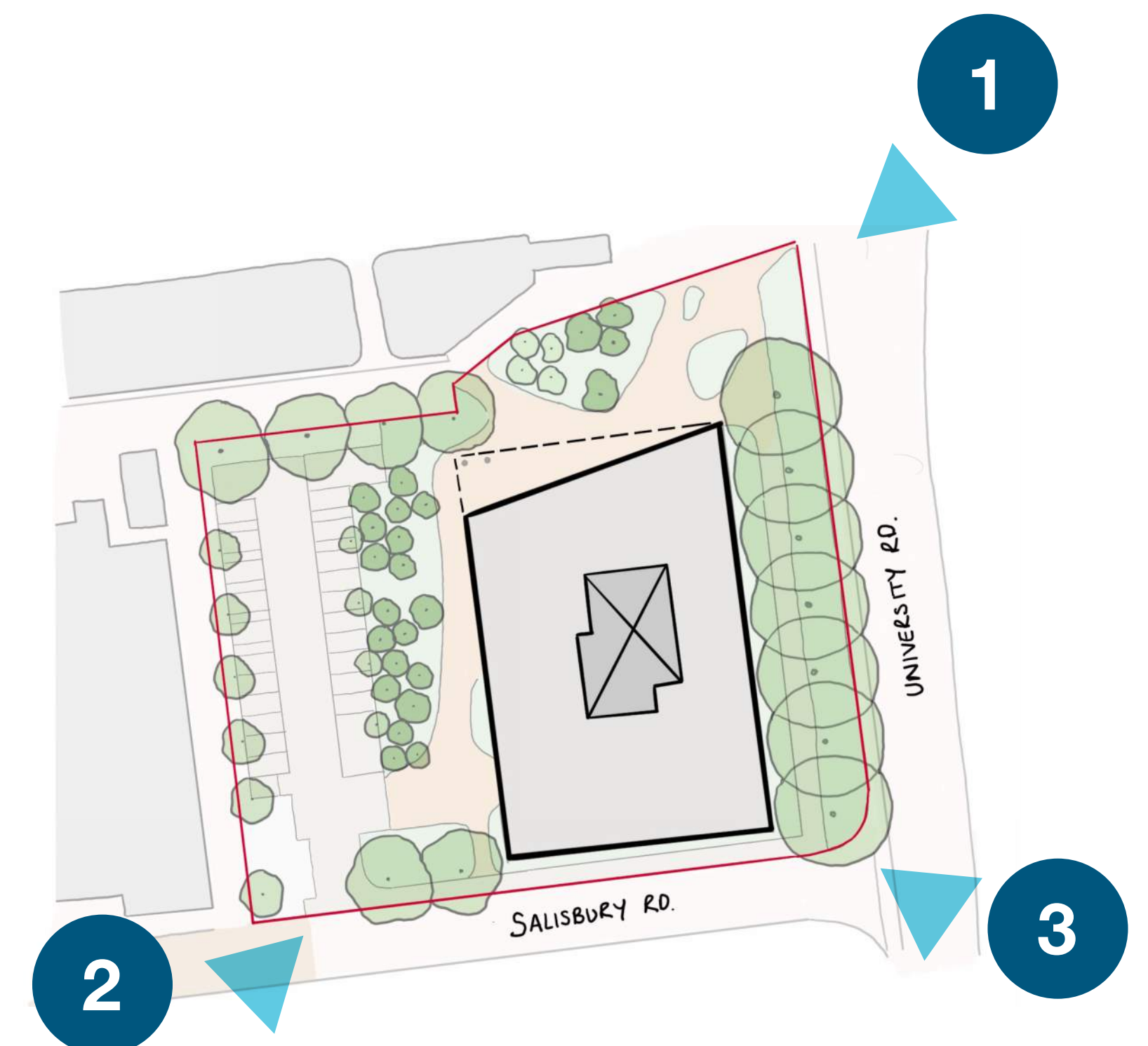


Perforated sinusoidal plant screen, anodised finish.



1

Views



Next steps

The University intends to submit two separate planning applications for the STEM development, one for the main works and one for an enabling works that will help the development to be delivered as efficiently as possible.

Enabling works

The proposed enabling works package will include a range of activities to prepare the site:-

- Diverting, removing and upgrading below ground services.
- Undertaking ground investigations and works to level the site.
- Removal of portacabins, street furniture & lighting columns.



February 2026

Public exhibition

June 2026

Anticipated planning determination

Q4 2026

Anticipated start of main works

March 2026

Submission of planning applications

July 2026

Anticipated commencement of enabling works on site

Q1 2028

Anticipated completion

We welcome any feedback you have on the proposed STEM development.

Please either fill in a feedback form at today's event, or email your comments to **EstateDevelopment@soton.ac.uk**.

These boards are available to view at **<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/community/building-projects.page>**