

Centre Building

London School of Economics and Political Science

HEDQF

Higher Education Design Quality Forum

RSHP's design for the LSE is inspired by the university's core values of Collaboration, Excellence and Innovation.

The brief called for world-class architecture to match the LSE's international academic reputation. RSHP has gone further by designing a new public square located at the heart of the university, creating a new focal point for the school and improving connectivity and wayfinding throughout the campus. Innovative and inspirational spaces are created by simple, flexible floor plans that provide a mixture of cellular and open plan offices, teaching spaces and student study areas.

Public and student facilities are accommodated between the lower ground and second floor connected by a single sculptural staircase which rises within a three storey atrium.

This provides a dramatic and flowing circulation route between the floors with informal break out spaces, to encourage students to come together to explore, debate and innovate.

Above the second floor, academic departments are housed on flexible floor plates connected by a meandering "collaborative" stair that rises in a series of double height voids across the façade, informally connecting otherwise independent faculties to encourage collaboration and dialogue.

The BREEAM Outstanding building is designed to be simple and robust, combining the best elements of passive design with innovative MEP plant and controls, making it easy for users to adapt their individual environment, but also easy for maintenance staff to operate.

Location: London, UK

Scope: New build

Brief: Student Commons, Study & Collaboration areas, cafe, Seminar rooms, lecture theatres, departmental and research accommodation and Alumni Centre.

Floor area (GIA): 15,500 sq m

Sustainability: BREEAM Outstanding

Completion date: Summer 2019

Project Team

Client: LSE Estates

Architect: RSHP

Structural Engineer: AKT2

M&E Engineer: ChapmanBDSP

Landscape Architect: Gillespies

QS: Deloitte

Contractor: MACE

Project Manager: LSE Estates



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Above - Student Commons addressing Houghton Street
Right - New Public Square at heart of campus

Page below:

Top left - Meandering Staircase connects all Academic Departments

Lower left - Informal Student Study Spaces connected by atrium staircase

Lower right - New Public Square

