



Woolston Community Centre, Southampton



Challenge:

To construct a new purpose-built extension to the community centre that is sympathetic to the characteristics of the Woolston Conservation Area, but provides a modern contrast to the old traditional single-storey Victorian school building to which it is connected.

Solution:

To reflect the architectural style of the old school, a gable front design has been used, with pitched roof and deep bargeboards covered in zinc sheet. The red brick exterior of the school has been recreated in modern style using large format Ibstock Fireborn® Natural Red clay bricks, stack bonded to coordinate with the original standard brickwork. Panels of buff brickwork create a visual break between the two buildings. Sitting on contrasting courses of engineering grey bricks which cleverly mirror the block paviors of the new hard landscaping scheme and serve to firmly ground the building within its environment, the architects have achieved achieving a perfect balance of old and new, using modern materials in a traditional style, within the limited budget allocated for this community development.

Architect: Capita property and Infrastructure

Brick:

Fireborn Natural Red