



Nicholls Building Chetham's School of Music

Whitfield & Brown has been appointed to refurbish three floors of student accommodation within the largest Music School in the UK situated in Manchester city centre adjacent to the Cathedral, Urbis and Victoria Station.

The proposed works, circa £500,000 was carried out within the mid three floors of the five-storey Nicholls Building (formerly science and chemistry laboratories) and involved the partial demolition of the internal partitions to provide space for en suite dormitory accommodation for boarding pupils and a flat for the adult supervisors. The overall accommodation comprises:

- 3rd floor – 6 bedrooms – 14 beds
- 2nd floor – 6 bedrooms – 18 beds
- 1st floor – 3 bedrooms – 6 beds

Key Aspects

- ✓ Located within pedestrian zone therefore required extensive planning and coordination for receipt & dispatch of material deliveries
- ✓ Installation of a new lift to the lower ground floor
- ✓ All equipment & material had to be manual handled to each floor via the staircase or via crane & scaffold from the outside of the building
- ✓ Coordination and installation of 2 x 6m long RSJ's. Due to space limitations and access restrictions the RSJ's had to be crane lifted to the 2nd floor, through the window onto a genie lift and manoeuvred and threaded into position by partially removing internal walls.



Client: Chethams School of Music

Architect: ISA Studio Ltd

QS: Arcadis UK

Value: £540,000

Contract Period: 17 weeks

Procurement: JCT Traditional Contract

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