

Why Improve The Campus?

Background

Varndean College is one of the principal further education providers in Brighton and Hove, providing GCSE, A-Level and the International Baccalaureate to 16-18 year olds, together with adult education course for the local community.

The current main building was built in 1932 in neoclassical style by the Education Committee for the County Borough of Brighton as Varndean Grammar School for Boys, and became Varndean Sixth Form College in 1975.

It is in need of significant investment if it is to continue to meet the education, training and skills needs of the City and City Region.

The College, which delivers technical, vocational and professional education to students from age 16 to adults, aims to invest in developing and improving its facilities to meet the needs of current and future pupils, particularly helping address the regional skills shortages in creative, digital and IT businesses.

Feasibility Investigation

Varndean College have employed a consultant team to review their existing buildings, and to recommend improvements and options for future expansion. The college wish to develop their site in a planned and sustainable manner.



Campus Aerial

Existing Facilities

An area analysis has been undertaken for the current student enrollment based on Learning and Skill Council (LSC) guidance (the LSC has now become the ESFA, however the LSC guidance is still current). This identified that currently:

- Every student workspace in the college is used more efficiently than the LSC guidance.
- The College is in the low-range for overall Gross Internal Area (GIA)
- 'Teaching space' is 368-408m² below the LSC guidance
- 'Study space' is 215m² below the LSC guidance
- Corridors, stairwells, toilets, lifts, plant rooms is considerably below guidance
- There is a lack of WC facilities generally, and gender-neutral facilities in particular.
- General condition of some of the accommodation needs upgrading.



Main Building East Entrance



Main Building East Quad



STEM Building



Central Open Space



East Main Entrance Approach



Main Entrance



Temporary Classrooms



Temporary Classrooms View from STEM



Temporary Classrooms view from Car Park