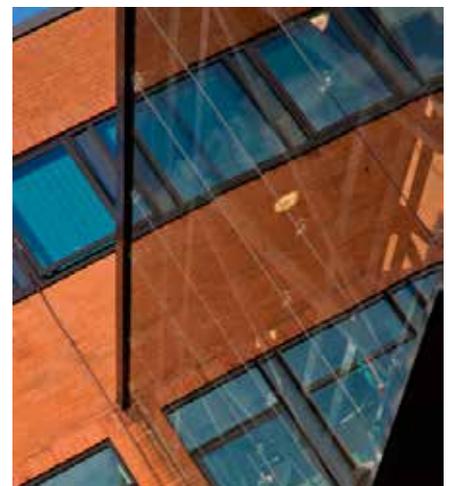
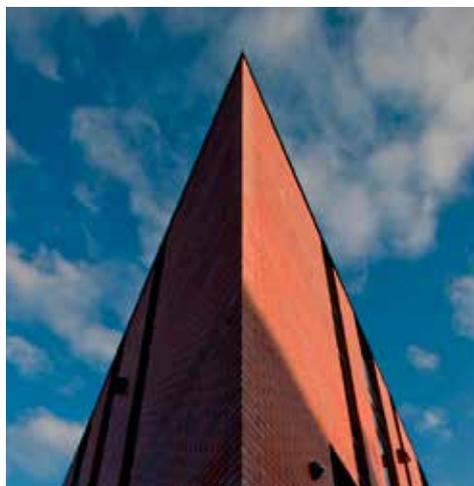




Brick type: Dark Multi Smooth
Location: Carlisle

Project Architect: Ryder Architecture
Contractor: Keir Construction

The completion of a multi-million pound project at Carlisle College has created an innovative, high-tech, sustainable environment in which to work and learn.





Carlisle College

The completion of a multi-million pound project at Carlisle College has created an innovative, high-tech, sustainable environment in which to work and learn.

Victoria Place Campus, designed by Ryder Architecture to achieve a minimum BREEAM Very Good rating, provides a new build college and central atrium that connects to existing buildings at the city centre campus.

The accommodation is provided in a two storey teaching wing and a central double height link block which feature strong, clean lines and combine to create a functional, striking and modern building. The overall design provides an interesting but formal aesthetic that unifies the campus and creates a strong presence while being comfortable in its urban context.

Forterra's Dark Multi Smooth brick was chosen as its blend of reddish and purple hues complements the surrounding buildings. It is a smooth clay brick presenting a consistent and uniform character which adds to the building's presence. The contemporary appearance is enhanced by the use of large glazed areas.

"As the elevations are very simple in appearance, the quality of the brick's colour and texture was massively important to influencing the final aesthetic," said architect Matthew Haggerty.

"The area is predominantly red brick, contrasting from very light to dark so we wanted a brick that was strong in colouring. Forterra's Dark Multi Smooth had a very good finish and texture quality, which suited the aesthetic we were looking for.

"The choice makes the building sing. No other material would have had the same impact on the buildings' appearance as brick has done."

A non-standard coloured mortar, which worked well with the colouring of the Dark Multi Smooth, was used to give the impression of large panels and complete the design.

The campus, built by Keir Construction, offers 3,040 square metres of floor space and it is envisaged that the college will form an integral part of a new learning village. The new development underlines the college's ability to offer students the opportunity to learn over 300 new skills and includes industry-leading facilities such as a catering kitchen, training restaurant and salon for beauty students.

The scheme also incorporates rain water harvesting, heat recovery, low energy lighting and daylight linked occupancy sensors to minimise energy usage.

"The choice makes the building sing. No other material would have had the same impact on the buildings' appearance as brick has done." Matthew Haggerty, Architect, Ryder Architecture.

Images courtesy of Ryder Architecture and Kristen McCluskie Photography