

Rockfon acoustic solutions bring harmony to the Valley

Islwyn High School, Caerphilly, Wales



21st Century School Programme

Islwyn High in Caerphilly is an ambitious project to amalgamate two former schools in a new purpose-built development. Part of the 21st Century School Programme across Wales, the impressive three storey building comprises a range of modern teaching spaces, an amphitheatre, technology workshops and science labs.

Rockfon acoustic ceiling solutions are installed throughout the school to control noise and harmonise with the contemporary interior. We were able to successfully meet or exceed the ceiling design and performance requirements specified by Caerphilly Borough Council.

Willmott Dixon Design Manager Julian Morgan explains the role Rockfon played in the success of the project: *“Rockfon is one of our mandated materials suppliers for suspended ceilings. The building work was finished on time and within budget. The help they provided with product selection and ensuring the installations went smoothly enabled us to achieve our objectives.”*

Products in use

- Rockfon® Scholar™
- Rockfon® Tropic™ dB
- Rockfon® Koral™ E
- Rockfon Blanka® Z
- Rockfon Blanka® dB 44

Superior sound control

Acoustics were high on the agenda when it came to the ceiling specification. Rockfon Scholar 40mm and Rockfon Tropic dB are fitted on the school's top floors in part to reduce the noise generated internally by rainfall on the metal roof. Rockfon Scholar, with its Class A sound absorption, is ideal for education buildings as it helps lower the level of reverberation in classrooms. Rockfon Tropic dB offers superior sound absorption and insulation which decreases the ambient sound level in the classrooms and limits noise transference to the spaces around and below.

Caerphilly County Borough Councils' Lead Designer Julian Harding explains his choice of Rockfon Blanka Z for use in the school's reception area and dining hall, *"Blanka Z creates a modern linear aesthetic which accentuates the space and provides an attractive visual contrast between these areas and the rest of the school."*

Rockfon Koral E delivers outstanding acoustic control and the safest fire classification which is why 4,800m² is installed in the classrooms, circulation areas and auditorium. Background noise can interfere with concentration levels and performance in schools, the Class A sound absorption of Rockfon Koral improves speech intelligibility. Class A1 building materials are non-combustible and prevent the spread of fire which is essential for schools.



Andrew Pearce of M&P Group installed the ceilings at the school and is impressed with how well the job went, *"I've worked with Rockfon for a number of years and I've always found their products easy to handle and install. I also like how quickly and efficiently the team at Rockfon respond to calls and queries. They are great to work with."*

Rockfon Blanka

The Rockfon Blanka range has a smooth, deep matt, super white surface providing 85% light reflection to optimise the available natural light, creating a pleasant environment, helping minimise energy consumption, leading to energy cost savings.



Its enhanced surface durability makes it more resistant to direct wear and tear – ideal for a busy school environment.

Rockfon Blanka dB 44 ceilings installed in the music rooms provide outstanding sound insulation and the highest level of sound absorption to prevent music playing becoming a distraction in adjoining rooms.

Highly commended

Rockfon are delighted to have received a Highly Commended award in the Product of the Year category of the Willmott Dixon Regional Awards 2017.

Find out more by visiting www.rockfon.co.uk or email info@rockfon.co.uk

Rockfon provide advanced stone wool acoustic ceiling and wall solutions to create beautiful, comfortable spaces. Easy to install and durable, they protect people from noise and the spread of fire while making a constructive contribution toward a sustainable future.