

Rockfon creates the perfect learning environment

St Joseph's Secondary School, County Clare



Exceeding acoustic requirements

Set in a picturesque village in County Clare, St Joseph's Secondary School is a new state-of-the-art learning facility created as part of an ambitious multi-million Schools Bundle PPP Programme - Bundle 4 Project. Rockfon ceiling solutions were installed to help create the ideal conditions for learning and enhance the architect's contemporary design.

Pat McManamon from BAM Building Ltd, Ireland, was involved in the selection of Rockfon ceilings for this project *"We chose Rockfon because their ceiling systems met (and exceeded in most cases) the acoustic requirements set out by the Department of Education. Fire safety is paramount in schools and Rockfon ceiling systems conform to the safest fire classification, Class A1 fire resistance."*

Education buildings need to be functional and pleasant spaces. Major contributors to this are light and sound. Rockfon Artic satisfies these requirements and was installed in classrooms, offices and circulation spaces.

The tile's smooth, white surface offers optimum light reflection, contributing to a comfortable environment with low glare and reduced eye disturbance. Rockfon Artic also provides enhanced sound absorption (0.8aw) – ensuring teachers can communicate – enabling students to perform at their best.

Products in use

- Rockfon® Artic™
- Rockfon® Tropic™
- Rockfon® Koral™
- Chicago Metallic® T24 Click 2890 grid

High light reflectance and a concealed grid option

Rockfon Tropic D concealed edge ceiling tiles were chosen for the special needs unit. Rockfon Tropic provides Class A sound absorption which helps create an environment that offers optimum speech intelligibility – essential for all children, but particularly those with learning difficulties.

Pat McManamon expands on why Rockfon Artic and Rockfon Tropic were the preferred choice: *“The tiles have a very white and attractive finish which fits with the school’s minimalist design. The availability of a concealed grid system in the same range and finish was also a deciding factor in selecting Rockfon for these projects.”*

The white, smooth surface of Rockfon Tropic ceiling tiles offers 85% light reflectance and full light diffusion helping make effective use of available natural light. These excellent lighting conditions help improve the working environment and contribute to a reduction in energy costs.

Rockfon Koral was fitted in the shower and wet rooms at St Joseph’s as it has a wipeable, micro-textured surface that can cope with increased humidity and the need for regular cleaning with a damp cloth or sponge.

Saving on installation time and material costs

SIG Ireland supplied the ceiling tiles. A leading distributor, SIG can deliver a range of Rockfon acoustic products from stock via its branches in Ireland and across the UK.

Rockfon ceiling tiles remain dimensionally stable even at humidity levels of up to 100% relative humidity. This unique performance characteristic enabled the contractor to reduce the original specification of 7-8 different ceiling tiles to just three – saving on installation time and material costs.

Hyland Contracting installed Rockfon ceilings at the School. Director, Mark Hyland was impressed with the technical support he received from Rockfon. *“Having a representative from Rockfon here in Ireland made a big difference to the job. He was on site, and offered advice and assistance at every stage, which ensured the ceilings looked perfect. We plan to use Rockfon for the next three school projects.”*

Rockfon has unrivalled experience in the education sector. With an impressive track record backed by in-house technical support, Rockfon area managers can provide advice on how to create a school building that satisfies regulations and is an inspiring place to learn.



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.

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