



Refurbishment & Remodelling Overview

The existing buildings are over 60 years old and have never undergone a major refurbishment programme.

Similarly, the original layouts were designed to reflect the needs and patterns of use at the time.

This project therefore provides an opportunity not only to upgrade the existing facilities but also to explore options for remodelling them to better accommodate current and future requirements.

The refurbishment works will be carried out both externally and internally, although the majority of the work will be internal.

The remodelling works are focused within the residential courtyards, where the need for adaptation has been identified.

Remodelling

The remodelling works are limited to the residential courtyards only as this is where the need for change was identified.

Patterns of Use

The original buildings anticipated a different lifestyle for students and this project presented an opportunity to reconfigure the building to suit current and future needs.

Through discussion with the College community we have identified 3 key areas:

- En-suite bathrooms
- Communal areas
- Courtyard Common Rooms

En-suite Shower Rooms

The majority of newly constructed student accommodation includes en-suite shower rooms within each study bedroom, a feature also incorporated in recently completed projects at Churchill College. This provision is regarded as an important attraction for prospective students, contributing to improved sanitation, comfort, and overall well-being.

At the same time, the College remains mindful of the need to balance affordability for students by maintaining a mix of en-suite and non-en-suite rooms.

Our options analysis explored the viability of introducing additional en-suites across different room types, taking into account spatial considerations, heritage sensitivities, drainage connections, and ventilation requirements.

The study identifies constraints as well as a range of potential configurations and distribution strategies, enabling the College to make an informed decision that balances practical opportunities with broader cultural considerations.



Scan QR code for virtual tour of en suite study bedroom



Scan QR code for virtual tour of kitchen

Communal Areas

Communal areas are located on each staircase and currently comprise a gyp room (kitchen), shared bath/shower and WC facilities, as well as storage and cleaners’ cupboards.

The existing gyp rooms are very small and were originally designed for a generation of students expected to rely primarily on the central dining facilities. With changing dietary, cultural, and financial needs, there is now a clear requirement for improved local cooking and dining facilities adjacent to the staircases.

The College is also reviewing the future provision of communal shower and WC facilities, which will be influenced by the extent of new en-suite shower rooms delivered through refurbishment projects.



Courtyard Common Rooms

The brief identifies a shortage of flexible communal space within the college.

Such space could include a range of uses including:

- Communal and social activities
- Individual study
- Supervisions
- Structured meetings or seminars

A dedicated space would be provided within each courtyard, positioned on the ground floor adjacent to the study bedrooms and designed to be fully accessible to wheelchair users.

In addition to supporting academic and social functions, the creation of interior space at ground floor level would also contribute to improved thermal insulation in areas where this cannot otherwise be achieved due to exposed concrete soffits.

