

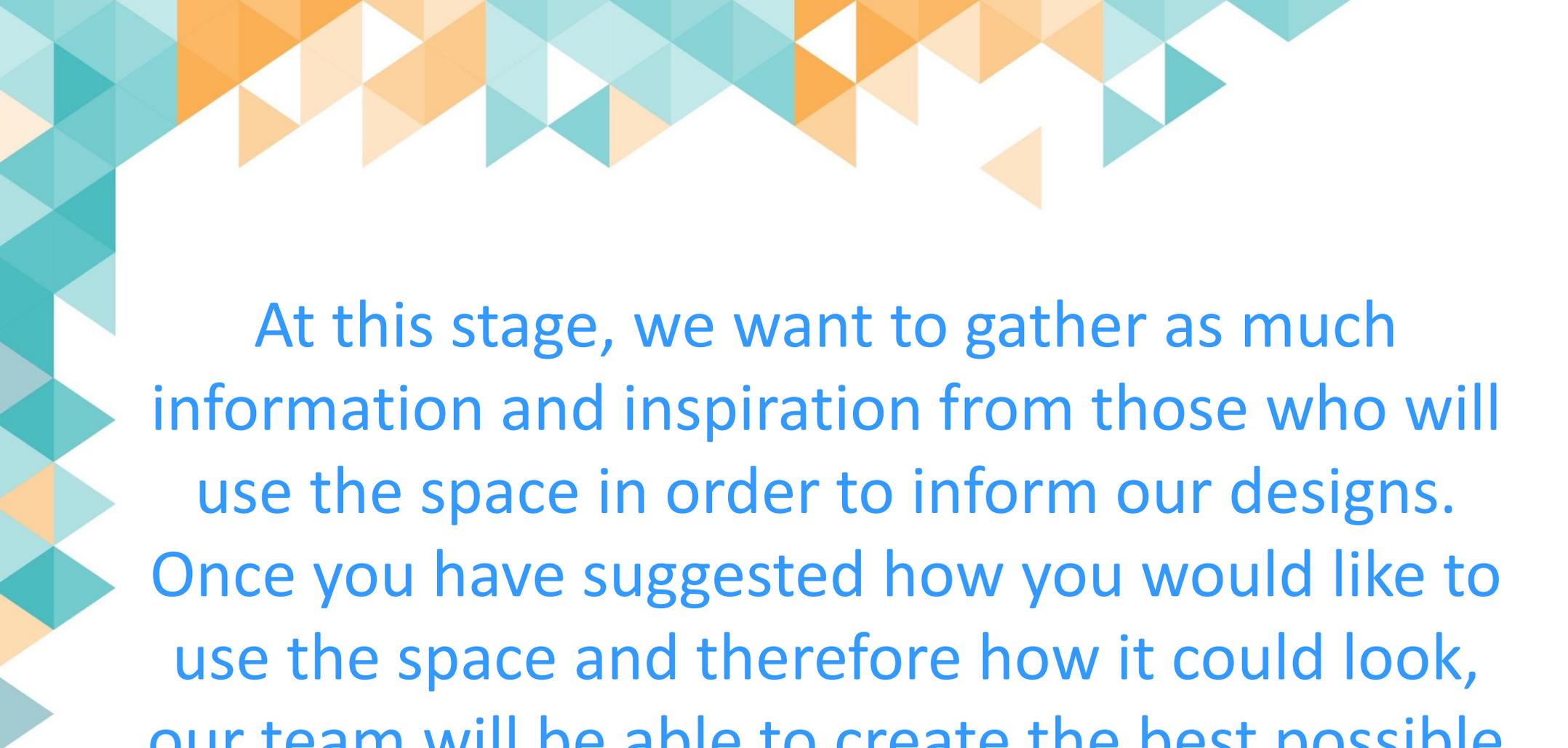


Smarter Spaces Project - SSAT and Dulux Central Foundation Girls School



Collating the design brief





At this stage, we want to gather as much information and inspiration from those who will use the space in order to inform our designs. Once you have suggested how you would like to use the space and therefore how it could look, our team will be able to create the best possible design for your school!



Tell us about yourselves

We are a very large secondary school with a number of teachers wanting to use the room. The idea is that a few teachers would start in there with various classes from KS3 and KS4, they will share their success story from using the room with all staff members. This should then allow us to open the room up to any teacher who wants to use it.

The students who picked and designed the room are keen to be involved in the booking of the room process; a teacher would have to explain to them why they are going to use the room with a certain class and how it will have an impact on their learning and then they can book them in.



Where would you like to make over?

A small group of year 10 students went round the whole school trying to decide the best room for the job before deciding on S6 in the Harley Grove site.

This is currently used as a bit of an overflow room in that it is completely generic and if there are no rooms free for Maths, citizenship, Sociology, English, etc. then they have their class in there.

They chose this room because:

- Its got one wall of windows, so there are three other walls you can put furniture on
- Its already been redecorated under BSF so looks quite new in case we can't paint it and we can spend more money on furniture, technology etc.
- It is at the end of the corridor so is quite nice and private with a separate kind of entrance from the staircase if we want to bring in visitors
- We can fit the furniture in and there are enough PowerPoints already there for the computers.



Where would you like to make over?

This is a panoramic shot of the classroom



As you can see it's a very generic room, not the most inspiring of places to work.



Where would you like to make over?



The ceiling is ugly, dirty and falling apart, the students thought about getting a new one or just painting this one. They like the idea of having inspirational quotes painted on so if students start day dreaming and look up at least they can still be inspired

Where would you like to make over?



The furniture is all a bit dull and mismatched, the students liked the idea of having professional looking furniture that all matches so students will respect it and the room more

Where would you like to make over?



The students would like this main wall to be painted in white board paint so students and teachers can write on the walls

Where would you like to make over?



The blinds are ugly, damaged and drawn on. The students would like something that looked more professional, like you'd see in a work place. It must be fairly strong to avoid damage.

Where would you like to make over?



Radiators are also dull and drawn on, the students want them repainted

Why does it need a makeover?

The students would like to create a different kind of classroom, one that would make school a bit more like a professional workplace, so that they get the opportunity to practice their employability skills more often.

They were inspired by our visit to the Microsoft classroom earlier in the year. It was bright and colourful and there were desks in groups not in rows, and they could work on the computer. They had a job to do and we felt like they had the resources and the space to do it, and that was nice.

To make the classroom idea come to life they researched what different offices look like, and have looked at the google office online as well as the Microsoft classroom.

To sum up they want a professional looking room where students want to work in, where they respect the room and everything in it. Where they get the chance to better prepare for life outside of school, the workplace as this is something that schools lack.

Subjects are taught separately and you are taught to work on your own, this room should encourage cross curricular learning, team work and inquiry based learning.



How would you like it to look?

The students created a blueprint of the room (not to scale) It shows round table where students can work collaboratively.



How would you like it to look?

The students would like the walls of the room painted this colour as their research showed it was calming and looks more interesting than just white walls. They would also like 1 wall painted with whiteboard paint



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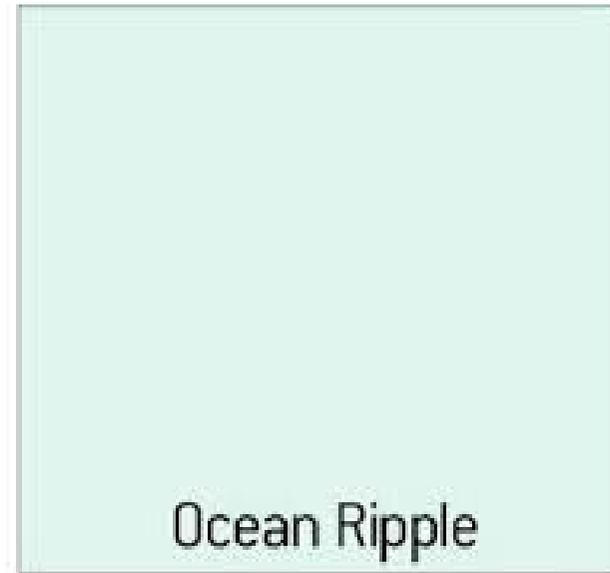
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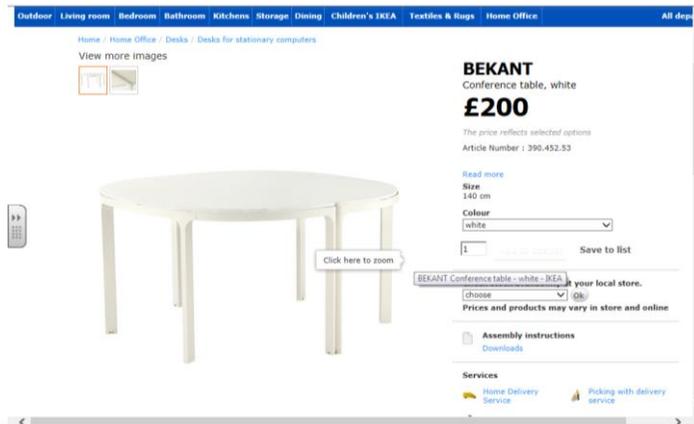


Dulux



How would you like it to look?

They have seen these round tables from Ikea and thought they would be perfect for the room, they would like 6 of them. They would also like a computer on each table, as a school we already own these HP computers but they are currently boxed up. They would like them fitted to each table for students to use when working collaboratively. They would also like a printer/scanner/photocopier in there to gain instant access to printed work.

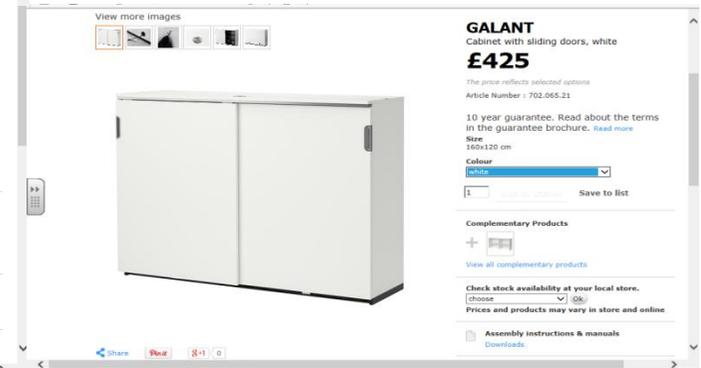
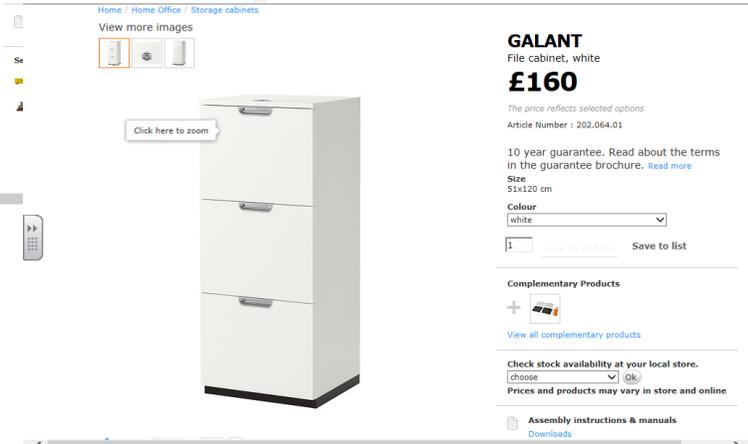
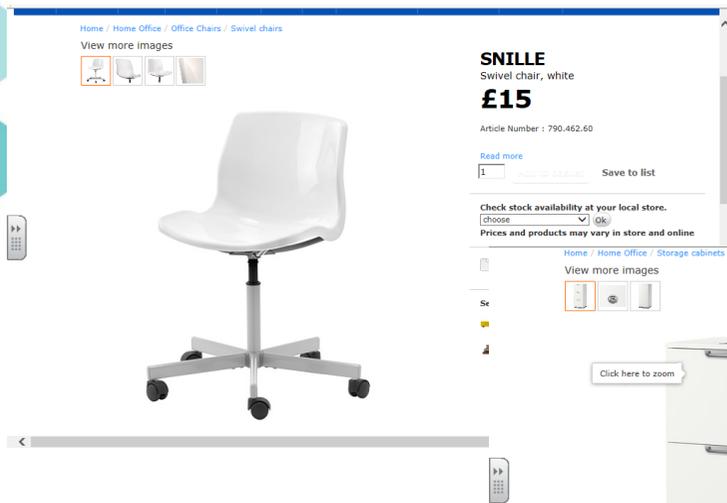


Left: HP ProOne 400 Touch.
Right: HP ProOne 400 non-touch.



How would you like it to look?

They would like chairs like this so the room resembles more of an office/work place and cabinets like these as again they look more professional and everything matches.



How would you like it to look?

They would like nice furniture in the room, something you wouldn't expect to see in a school to better recreate a work place environment and so students respect it more.

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How would you like it to look?

They decided the teachers desk should match the students so everything matches but realised it would be better for a teacher to have a squarer desk so it is easier for them to store things



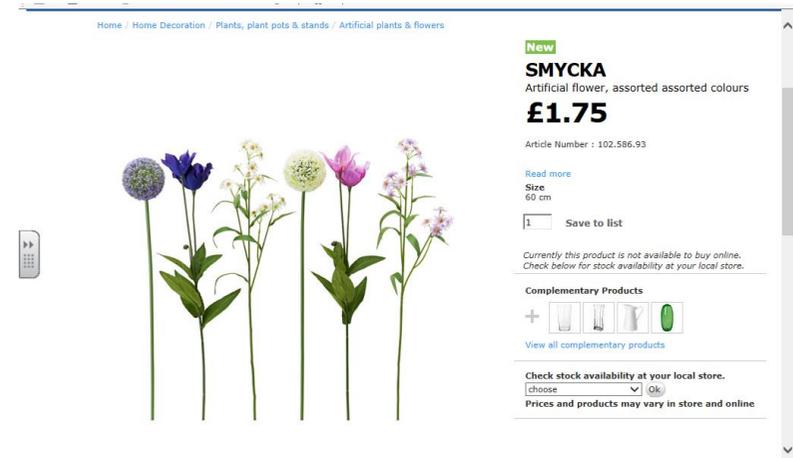
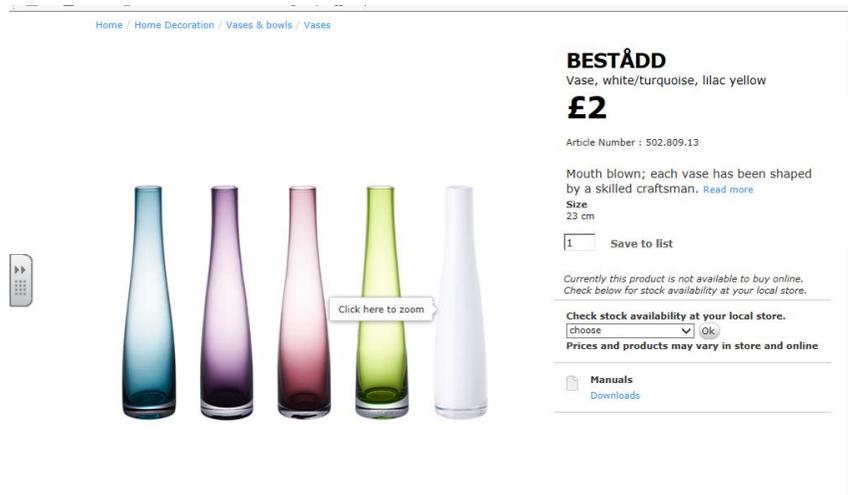
How would you like it to look?

They would like a green (living) wall made on one of the back walls as it will make the room look nice and should improve the rooms air quality.



How would you like it to look?

They would like decorations for the room to make it look really different to other rooms and really create a workplace feel not a classroom feel.



How will it benefit you and your school?

Schools experimenting with SOLE have reported higher levels of reading comprehension, literacy, behaviour, language, creativity and problem solving abilities. The majority of our students are advanced bilingual learners and although proficient in reading text, they cannot always decode it successfully. We hope that by implementing an approach to teaching and learning that puts the onus on students to figure out the meaning of the question and to not just find, but also piece together information to create an answer we will be able to develop their capacity to read for meaning. Our students are also risk averse – they are reluctant to make mistakes and can be passive in their approach to learning. This space and this approach would encourage visible thinking, trying out ideas and options and getting comfortable with making mistakes, encouraging students to see them as a part of the learning process. We hope this will make students more robust learners and more willing to ‘give-it-a-go’ in all their subjects. Most importantly – the support would allow us to implement an idea generated by a group of students and give a very concrete expression of our school commitment to student voice.

By using enquiry based learning and ICT we see the opportunity to create a learning space that will allow learners to be independent of the teacher. In providing the freedom to answer the ‘big questions’ in their own way, we envisage students taking ownership of their learning and firing up their curiosity so that they become not just effective team workers and problem solvers but lifelong learners. As well as the benefits to the school, the project would allow the students involved in the planning to have a ‘real’ experience of design work, fully supporting the school-work transition philosophy that underpins the creation of an alternative learning space.



Are there any functional considerations for the space?

- Fixed fittings? - There is a lot of cabling rounding around the room that gets in the way
- Current issues with walls/surfaces? – issues with the ceiling, falling apart
- Current plumbing/heating considerations/issues in the room? – not that we can see
- General levels of lighting – fairly standard
- Essential requirements (don't move furniture, teaching wall must stay where it is etc) - no
- School logo and colours



- Written school vision - <http://www.central.towerhamlets.sch.uk/School-Vision-and-Ethos>



LOTS OF
PHOTOS AND
VIDEO!!!



Whole Class session structure (2-3 lessons)

- 1.The Brief**
- 2.And the survey says?**
- 3.Digging deep**
- 4.Putting it all together**



Small group session structure

- 1.The Brief**
- 2.And the survey says?**
- 3.Digging deep to build**
- 4.Putting it all together**