



Student Hub Sustainability

In late 2023 we opened the doors to an exciting expansion that will establish a benchmark of global excellence for one of the top business schools in the UK and Ireland.

A new 6,000 square metre innovative building called the **Student Hub** sits alongside the listed red-brick Riddel Hall, as the new base for a vibrant student and staff community, providing an enhanced social and educational experience.

As part of the design development, sustainability was a key factor. A number of measures were included to make a meaningful addition to the project as follows:

- *Geothermal heat system: piles driven to a depth of 120m to extract heat from the sub-strata and provide low level constant heating to the facility via an underfloor heating system. Generation of heat resulting in 10% reduction on life cycle costs compared to gas boiler installation and a massive 61% reduction in carbon emissions from 120 tonnes to 46 tonnes.*
- *Photovoltaic panels: installed on the roof for electricity generation.*
- *Solar panels: installed on the roof to generate all hot water within the bathrooms and kitchen areas.*
- *A highly insulated roof system with a Sedum Moss finish to the all high-level roofs, and a Wildflower Meadow finish to the lower roof.*
- *Double-glazed curtain walling and window system with insulated glass units.*
- *Shower provision: a shower room containing 4Nr showers, lockers, drying racks and vanity area have been provided to encourage cycle to work scheme and physical activities during staff breaks.*
- *Electric Car Charging: initially providing 4Nr car parking spaces for charging cars, with infrastructure included to allow this to expand to 7Nr.*
- *LED light fittings used both internally and externally with appropriate lux levels and blinds on windows to ensure minimum disturbance to local wildlife.*
- *A planting scheme using native species. and a swift calling system.*

Awarded Recognition

Civic Trust

RICS – NI Regional Shortlist

Building & Architect of the Year (Education Project) ROI Awards

