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## **Designs on Learning**

### **Integrating Physical And Virtual Environments Using Creative Approaches To Partnership Working**

**Margaret Weaver, Head of Learning and Information Services  
Paul Holland, Head of Customer Services**

**St. Martin's College**

# The Vision

- Institutional context – St Martin's College - Corporate Plan 2004-9
- Shifts in the teaching culture – FDL
- The Learning Gateway concept
- The Change Academy
- Stakeholders and partners
- A new University for Cumbria

# Architects Brief

“The Learning Gateway concept is based on the assumption that the relationship between the physical environment and the student experience is vital and that the latter can be enhanced if it is designed in right from the start”

Architects Plus, Carlisle



# Learning First

- Learner-centred environment
- Pedagogical Principles
- SMART Learners
- Collaborative Learning
- Flexible, adaptable, accessible spaces
- Formal, informal and social learning–seamless
- Changing roles – tutors, students, support

# The Building



HEFCE PCR3 & PCR4

£3.2 million new build

£800,000 kit out

ICT enabled

- Started: March 2005
- Completed Jan 2006

Project management

Stakeholder involvement

Architectural statement

# The Technology



- Wireless network
- Digital signs
- Laptop loan scheme
- Multimedia projectors and interactive whiteboards
- Portable video conferencing equipment
- Lecture theatre voting system

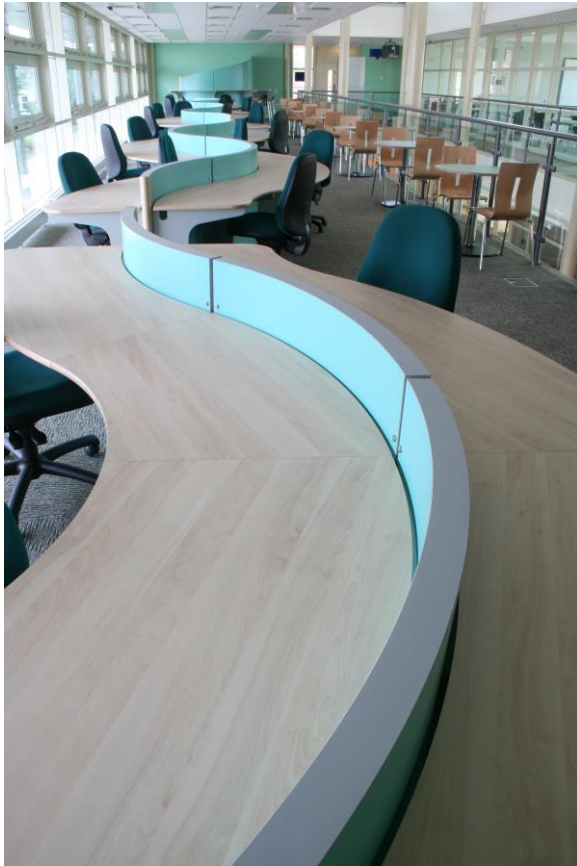
# The Environment



- Embedded technology
- Promotion of independent learning
- Zoned floors support different modes of learning
- Emphasis on flexible space
- 10 Flexi Rooms and a lecture theatre



# First Floor



- A change of colour
- Team desks for collaborative working
- Digital information signs
- Five Flexi Rooms
- Access to the Lecture Theatre
- Resource “pods”

# Second Floor



- A calmer learning space
- Three Flexi Rooms
- Individual work areas
- Reflection
- Quiet working? - possibly
- Social space

# A metaphor for new Learning



- The student journey
- The Change Academy
- Co-creation
- Framework for Action
- Culture shifts T &L
- Engagement
- Support Partnerships
- New leaders/teamwork
- The FDL Journey

# Impetus in Action

- Learning Gateway Services
- Staffing the Learning Gateway- multi-professional teams: Learning Facilitators
- Learners in the driving seat
- Partners – internal and external
- CLIC Project
- Learning Scenarios

# Futures

- Take-up and use
- Student perspectives
- Evaluation Plan – learning flows
- Yet more ICT
- Change Academy Process
- Multi-disciplinary leadership
- Organisational development

