

# **OECD Programme on Educational Building**

## **Creating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Environments**

### *An international seminar*

London, United Kingdom, 26 to 28 May 2004

Organised by the OECD Programme on Educational Building (PEB)  
and the Department for Education and Skills, United Kingdom

#### **Introduction**

School buildings have a crucial contribution to make to raising educational achievement. How to design high performance school buildings for the 21<sup>st</sup> century for all children is a shared concern amongst OECD countries. Innovative research seeks architectural answers that make efficient use of the resources invested in building, renovating and running schools. Changes in the design of those buildings must serve the educational process and improve the quality of the learning environment. To secure the best possible design input to deliver schools that will meet future needs and expectations and offer a positive environment that supports learning and teaching is a major challenge.

In the United Kingdom, education is currently the government's main priority. Raising educational standards and attainment levels of all children remains at the top of the education agenda. The government has announced significantly increased capital funding for schools. In its recent publication "Building Schools for the Future", the government has committed itself to renew or rebuild every secondary school within the next ten to 15 years: "The increase in annual funding to GBP 5.1 billion in 2005-06 marks a leap forward in investment planning. It will enable strategic and radical changes to be made to the school estate. Around GBP 2 billion a year will be spent on Building Schools for the Future – a programme with the aim of rebuilding and renewing all secondary schools over the next ten to fifteen years. Over the same period, there will also be substantial new investment in primary school buildings. This offers a rare opportunity to transform the educational built environment and must not be wasted".

It is important that such investment be used to procure well-designed buildings. School design is the synthesis of how a building is integrated into its environment and serves the activities of its users. There are a certain number of key questions that must be considered when addressing design quality in educational facilities. School buildings must be inspiring and need to provide a pleasant and

comfortable environment for learning. They must be open to wider use, thereby binding schools into their local communities. They need to be of sustainable and flexible design, inclusive and responsive to the most recent developments in information and communication technologies and to curriculum changes. High performance school buildings are also built to optimise investments and must be operated and maintained efficiently.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the seminar is to look at some recent attempts to create learning environments that respond to current needs, to give an idea of what has been achieved and to examine what developments can be expected in the near future. The event will concentrate on existing examples of innovative institutions in various countries and will attempt to define some of the basic concepts that will affect future learning environments. Participants will have the opportunity to study current and potential future international developments, to exchange experience and to draw conclusions for their own work. They will have the opportunity to meet their counterparts from other OECD countries and to learn about different approaches to creating learning environments for the future. Keynote speakers will analyse the broad trends and identify the issues which need to be addressed, and case studies from a number of OECD countries will be presented. There will be site visits to educational facilities in and around London.

Two exhibitions will also take place in conjunction with the seminar. The first one will present innovative school designs in the United Kingdom while the other will be dedicated to educational institutions featured in the PEB compendium of exemplary educational facilities, *Designs for Learning*, published in 2001.

## **Issues for discussion**

The main questions which the seminar will address are the following:

- Why is design important? What major current trends in school design can be identified at the international level?
- What major developments will affect learning environments in the future? How will school building design concretely respond to those challenges?
- How can information and communication technologies be integrated into the design of educational facilities? How can learning environments best reflect the priorities of sustainable development?
- Does school design take account of the needs for flexibility and how will it adapt to future needs and uses? Does it take account of the needs of children and adults with special needs?
- How do educational facilities best serve the community? What potential developments in education and what other services might be delivered through schools in the future?
- How can pupils and the local community participate in developing school design? How can school building projects support the curriculum?

## Participants

Participation is open to those in OECD countries who have a professional interest in the themes of the seminar, and may include elected representatives, officials of national, regional or local administrations, facility managers, planners, architects, headteachers and researchers.

The number of participants is limited to 100. Each member country is invited to send a maximum of four participants.

Priority will be given to representatives of countries participating in the OECD Programme on Educational Building (PEB), that is Australia, Austria, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom, and of PEB associate members (Chile; CISEM (Research Institute of the Province of Milan and Italian Provinces Union); *Communauté française de Belgique*, Belgium; *Dienst voor Infrastructuurwerken van het Gesubsidieerd Onderwijs* (DIGO – Belgium); *Het Gemeenschapsonderwijs*, Belgium; *Province du Québec*, Canada; *Provincia di Rovigo*, Italy; *Regione Emilia-Romagna*, Italy; *Regione Toscana*, Italy; Republic of Slovenia; *Service général de garantie des infrastructures scolaires subventionnées*, Belgium; Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan) provided registrations are received by **30 April 2004**.

## Working languages

The working languages for the seminar are English and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided during plenary sessions and visits.

## Documentation

Background documents and practical information about the seminar will be sent to registered participants approximately one month before the seminar. Other documents will be available at the seminar itself.

Participants who wish to contribute a paper to the seminar are requested to contact the PEB Secretariat as soon as possible, indicating which issues their paper will address and why it will be of interest to an international audience. Abstracts of presentations will be required by **Friday, 9 April 2004**, and those selected for presentation must be available in their final form by **Friday, 30 April 2004**. This is to allow time for them to be translated and reproduced.

## Registration

The attached registration form is to be completed and returned to the PEB Secretariat as soon as possible, and in any event before **Friday, 30 April 2004**. Confirmation of registration and invoices will be sent out during the month of May.

## Seminar fees

The cost of the seminar is:

<i>For representatives of OECD countries</i>	<i>For participants from countries or organisations</i>
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<i>participating in PEB, and of associate members:</i>	<i>which are <u>not</u> members or associate members of PEB:</i>
€ 275	€ 375

**Please note that these prices do not include accommodation.** They do include all seminar documentation, interpretation service, lunches, dinners and site visits. The prices do not include personal expenses (for example telephone and bar bills).

### **Accommodation**

Participants at the seminar will be accommodated for the nights of Tuesday, 25 May, Wednesday, 26 May and Thursday, 27 May at the Hotel Hilton Croydon (www.hilton.com), 101 Waddon Way, Croydon, Surrey CR9 4HH, telephone +44 (0) 20 8680 3000; fax +44 (0) 20 8681 6171.

The cost for accommodation is (per night, breakfast included, single or double occupancy):

Hilton Croydon Hotel****	Standard room: £ 95
	Additional breakfast: £ 14.50

**Please note that payment for accommodation is to be made to the hotel and that meals are not included for an accompanying person.**

To reserve accommodation for before, during and/or after the seminar, **please contact the Hilton Croydon Hotel directly and specify that you will be attending the seminar.**

The hotel accepts credit cards (American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard, Visa) and has currency exchange facilities.

### **Accompanying persons**

Accompanying persons will be welcome to join participants for dinners and for the school visits provided space is available. A charge will be made for meals and transportation. Participants are requested to notify the organisers if they plan to be accompanied on any of these occasions so that appropriate provision can be made.

### **Payment**

Payment of **seminar fees** is due by **30 APRIL 2004** and may be made by:

- bank transfer bearing the reference “**PEB LONDON 2004**” to:

account: OECD; bank: JP Morgan Chase Bank; address: 11, place Vendôme – 75001 Paris, France; account number: 3062860000160060908330294; SIRET: 775 687 957 00016; IBAN: FR76/3062/8000/00100/6090/8330/294; SWIFT/BIC: CHASFRPP.

We regret that credit cards cannot be accepted in settlement of seminar fees. **Please note that payments are to be made in Euros.**

### **Extended stays**

Staying over one Saturday night may significantly reduce the cost of air travel, and participants are advised to check with their travel agents. The Hilton Croydon Hotel welcomes participants during the day immediately before the seminar at a discount price subject to rooms being available.

### **Getting to London**

The cost of travel to and from the seminar venue is borne by participants, who are responsible for making their own travel arrangements.

London's international airports are served by regularly scheduled flights from most OECD countries. Information about welcome arrangements and transport between the airport and the seminar venue will be sent to participants after registration.

**Important: please note that flights to London are in great demand at that time of the year and that it is advisable to make your reservations as soon as possible.**

### **REMINDER:**

**DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS: 9 APRIL 2004**

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: 30 APRIL 2004**

**DEADLINE FOR COMPLETED PAPERS: 30 APRIL 2004**

**DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT: 30 APRIL 2004**

## Creating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Environments

*An international seminar organised by the OECD Programme on Educational Building (PEB) and the Department for Education and Skills, United Kingdom*

London, United Kingdom, 26 to 28 May 2004

### Provisional programme

Wednesday, 26 May

**Theme: New educational buildings**

9:00 – 11:30	Registration	<i>Weatherill Foyer at the Hilton Hotel, Croydon</i>
10.00	Opening of the conference	<i>Weatherill Suite at the Hilton Hotel, Croydon</i>
10.15	Welcome <b>Richard Yelland</b> , Head, Programme on Educational Building, OECD	
10.30	Keynote presentation Once we are ‘outside the box’, will we still need it? <b>Stephen Heppell</b> , Director of Ultralab, United Kingdom	
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break	<i>Weatherill Foyer at the Hilton Hotel, Croydon</i>
11.30 – 12.00	Building schools for the future – emerging themes <b>Mukund Patel</b> , Head of Schools Building and Design Unit, Department for Education and Skills, United Kingdom	<i>Weatherill Suite at the Hilton Hotel, Croydon</i>
12.00 – 12.30	Design Strategies for Tomorrow’s Schools <b>Prakash Nair</b> , President, Fielding/Nair International, United States	
12.30 – 13.00	Discussion	
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	<i>Bar Cocoa Restaurant at the Hilton Hotel, Croydon</i>
14.15	Departure for visits to school sites	<i>By coach</i>

14.30 – 17.00	<i>Group A: <b>The Business Academy</b> (Bexley)</i>	
	<i>Group B: <b>Lillian Bailey’s Technology School</b> (secondary school in Lambeth) <b>Kings Avenue School</b> (primary school in Lambeth)</i>	
17.00 – 17.30	Transfer to hotel	<i>By coach</i>
18.30	Transfer to Imperial College for reception	<i>By coach</i>
19.30	Reception hosted by the Ministry of State for School Standards, United Kingdom	<i>Imperial College</i>
20.30	Gala dinner	<i>DinnerHall, Imperial College</i>

Thursday, 27 May

**Theme: Refurbished educational buildings**

7.30 – 9.00	Breakfast	<i>Bar Cocoa Restaurant at the Hilton Hotel, Croydon</i>
9.30 – 10.00	Classrooms of the future – Innovative designs for schools <b>Chris Bissell</b> , Principal Architect, Schools Building and Design Unit, Department for Education and Skills, United Kingdom	<i>Weatherill Suite</i>
10.00 - 10.30	Refurbishing exiting buildings – The New Zealand framework <b>Paul Burke</b> , Group Property Manager, Ministry of Education, New Zealand	
10.30 - 11.00	The development of secondary schools to meet the needs of 21 <sup>st</sup> century learners <b>John Locke</b> , Alfriston College, New Zealand	
11.00 - 11.30	Coffee break	<i>Weatherill Foyer</i>
11.30 -12.00	Transforming existing schools <b>Pauline Nee</b> , Borough Architect and Building Surveyor, Southwark Council, United Kingdom	<i>Weatherill Suite</i>
12.00 - 12.30	School as a Learning Tool	

**Pit Li Phan**, Senior Vice President,  
CPG Consultants Pte Ltd, Singapore

12.30 - 13.00	Discussion	
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	<i>Bar Cocoa Restaurant</i>
14.00	Departure of Group A for visits to school sites	<i>By coach</i>
14.15	Departure of Group B for visits to school sites	
	<i>Group A: <b>Kingsdale Secondary School</b> (Southwark) <b>The Charter School</b> (secondary school in Southwark)</i>	
	<i>Group B: <b>St Francis of Assisi RC Primary School</b> (Kensington and Chelsea) <b>Tanaka Business School, Imperial College</b> (Kensington and Chelsea)</i>	
17.00 – 17.30	Transfer back to the Hilton Hotel, Croydon	<i>By coach</i>
19.30	Dinner	<i>Weatherill Suite, Hilton Hotel, Croydon</i>

Friday, 28 May

**Theme: Specialised spaces**

7.30 – 9.00	Breakfast	<i>Bar Cocoa Restaurant at the Hilton Hotel, Croydon</i>
9.30 – 10.00	The <i>Joinedupdesignforschools</i> project <b>John Sorrell</b> , Co-chair, Sorrell Foundation, United Kingdom	<i>Weatherill Suite</i>
10.00 – 10.30	Education and social cohesion: facilities for individual integration <b>Maurice Dandelot</b> , Director, Canton of Geneva Department for Primary Education, Switzerland	
10.30 – 11.00	Installing a fiber optic network and distance learning education technologies <b>Robert Bisailon</b> , Assistant Deputy Minister for Primary and Secondary Education, Ministry of Education, Quebec	

11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break	<i>Weatherill Foyer</i>
11.30 – 12.00	Design quality in mainstream and special schools <b>John Jenkins</b> , Haverstock Associates, United Kingdom	<i>Weatherill Suite</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Discussion and closing remarks	
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	<i>Bar Cocoa Restaurant</i>
14.15	Departure for visits to school sites	<i>By coach</i>
	<i>Group A:</i> <b>Royal Docks Community School</b> (secondary school in Newham) <b>Centre for Lifelong Learning, City and Islington College</b> (Finsbury Park)	
	<i>Group B:</i> <b>Watergate School</b> (primary school for children with special education needs in Lewisham) <b>Millennium Primary School</b> (Greenwich)	
17.00 – 17.30	Transfer back to the Hilton Hotel, Croydon	<i>By coach</i>