



PROJECT

DESIGN AND BUILD OF ALDERTON SURE START

CHILDREN'S CENTRE

CLIENT

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

VALUE

£1.1M

CONSULTANT

CASTONS



This single-storey brick built children's centre was designed to accommodate high ceilings and fitted with roof lights to provide plenty of natural light for the children. The tiled roof has been fitted with solar panels for energy efficiency. Lakehouse overcame the challenge of re-positioning the air handling unit which was originally in the ceiling, by positioning it in a confined space to keep it away from the children.

All doors have been fitted with guards to protect the children from catching their fingers and all bathrooms/wash areas have been fitted with child-friendly heat control valves to prevent the children from scalding themselves.

Doors leading outside have been fitted with heat sensors so that the heating is automated when the doors are opened or closed in cold weather, keeping the building a comfortable temperature at all times. Electrically operated velux windows and blinds have been fitted and set up to work from one master control.

Groundworks included an environmentally friendly natural screen block which was covered with grass. A special play area has been created on the decking as well as an area for an allotment and garden shed so that the children can enjoy growing their own plants and vegetables and learn to look after their own garden tools.