

Case Study The Madeley Academy, Telford

Product Visedge floor access covers



Architect: Barnsley, Hewett and Mallinson Architects

The Madeley Academy, an independent secondary school based in the historic mining town of Madeley in Telford, has recently moved to a stylish new building. A 900 place 11-16 academy with Sports College status the building features a range of specialist facilities including a large fitness centre, full size gym and suite of training rooms. A Vocational Training Centre provides specialist facilities for a range of courses including Hospitality and Catering, Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy, Construction and Land-based Studies. A Music Technology Suite provides hi-tech facilities for composing and saving music.

The Academy boasts state of the art IT facilities, with every classroom benefiting from plasma screens and "computer banks". The light and airy building is equipped with an underfloor heating system, air conditioning and automated windows to maintain a comfortable working temperature all year round for students. Designed as a user friendly school, the stylish and well conceived building provides a welcoming home for the school children of Telford.

Howe Green's 5000 series and Visedge aluminium floor access covers were chosen to provide safe and unobtrusive access to the wealth of service pipes and wiring, including electrical, IT and communication cables and plumbing concealed under the flooring at the Academy.

Performance

The Visedge panels are specially designed for use in areas featuring flexible flooring, such as rubber, vinyl, linoleum and carpets. At Madeley Academy they were used in a variety of different areas of the school including the Vocational Training Area, where they were used in conjunction with vinyl flooring.

The Visedge series combines modern construction techniques with innovative design. Engineered for use with flexible sheet flooring systems, the covers provide 'stiletto-proof' resistance

and have proven longevity in highly trafficked areas. Easy to install, robust and maintenance free the Visedge series were the ideal choice for the busy Academy environment.

The covers can be custom made to suit any aperture at no cost premium.

Featuring a double seal designed to create a positive seal to drainage, electrical and other ducts, they are also fitted with a top edge dirt seal.

The covers have crimped corners to allow both the cover and frame to lie completely flat.

Unlike similar products, the Visedge series allows the sheet flooring to be both bonded down and hot welded to the perimeter of both the cover and frame. This creates a permanent joint and eliminates any possible water ingress and peeling which can cause a health and safety hazard.

Installation

Every access panel that Howe Green manufactures is made to the client's exact specifications. Due to the company's position at the forefront of modern design and high usage of technology, the specially tailored panels do not come at a cost usually associated with bespoke manufacturing. The custom precision panels offer exceptional quality at a very competitive price.

The Visedge panels were fitted in conjunction with the Academy's flexible floor covering. The top edge dirt seal and weldable pvc securing edge ensured the floor material fitted flush with the panel, eliminating any possible water or dirt ingress and trip hazard.

The floor access covers were fitted by specialist subcontractor Covertron, working for main contractor Bowmer and Kirkland. The panels were supplied in a variety of sizes to suit the various applications throughout the building.