

Moving and Handling Case Study

St. John's school chooses Chiltern Invadex for Moving and Handling its special children

St. John's Foundation Special School in Kempston, Bedfordshire caters for over one hundred and thirty pupils who have severe and complex learning difficulties, between two and nineteen years of age.

In March 2000 HRH The Princess Royal visited the school in her capacity as Patron of Sense, officially opening a new state-of-the-art Hydrotherapy swimming pool.

St. John's is the Bedfordshire County designated provision for pupils with multi-sensory impairment. The school has worked in partnership with the Local Education Authority in planning and developing this provision, which was noted for its

excellence. There are currently eight pupils of primary age within the provision. Such pupils have a combination of visual and hearing loss, which creates unique patterns of learning difficulty.

The approaches used reflect good practice from within the UK, USA, Denmark and Holland. The environment has been modified to take account of pupils specific learning needs. The classrooms have been acoustically treated and specialist lighting installed.

A high staff ratio is required to facilitate learning. Staff access a variety of on-going support and training which ensures in-depth understanding of the specific needs of the pupils. The new swimming pool benefits

all pupils in promoting physical, social and communication skills. In addition the new pool boasts a Wispa Battery Ceiling Mounted Hoist, which was supplied by Chiltern Invadex.



Access to the new pool is provided by a Chiltern Invadex Wispa Hoist



“To enable the curved track system to be installed the engineering had to be precise and accurate”



Technical Surveyor Steven Parsons explains “The track is suspended over the pool using a tailor made system, which suits the pre-fabricated pitched roof”.

The building design meant the fixings had to be fabricated on site using steel spanning beams and a drop rod support system.

All fixings had to be suitable to withstand the high moisture content in the swimming pool environment. This included aluminium box section and stainless steel track fixings.

The track was installed across the exposed open plan pool area and in the girls and boys changing rooms with its suspended ceiling.

Easy transfer between the changing room and the pool using the powered transfer facility



“Other schools will enjoy the facility, as will the wider local community including MENCAP and U3A user groups”

The Installation was tailor made to suit the pitched roof (above) and the track positioned to travel through the changing room doorway (inset)



“Scale drawings were provided for the architect”.

One special feature which was incorporated for this installation was the double charging ‘beak’ which allows the hoist to be charged at either end of the track, in the boys or girls changing rooms. The architect was assisted in the pool design by Chiltern Invadex who provided

1:20 detailed installation drawings.

Operation of the hoist is extremely straightforward. Operators use a handset, which has four directional buttons. When a button is pressed the hoist travels along

the track in the specified direction. The handset is air operated and the hoist itself is battery powered. It is recharged automatically when returned to the end of the track, after use.



The Wispa Ceiling Mounted Hoist allows easy transfer from a changing stretcher to the pool



Easy access to the Spa Pool without the need for lifting

“The hoist ensures teachers and care staff do not put themselves at risk”

The Wispa Ceiling Mounted Hoist allows easy access to the specially installed Jet Spa Pool allowing the user to be gently lowered into the water, without the need for lifting. Installation of a straight piece of track over a birthing pool would offer the same benefits for moving and handling pregnant women.



Please contact your nearest Chiltern Invadex Divisional Office for further information

Chiltern Invadex Ltd Chiltern House 6 Wedgwood Road Bicester Oxon OX26 4UL

Tel: 01869 246470

Fax: 01869 247214

Overseas Enquiries Tel: +44 (0)1869 365545 Fax: +44 (0)1869 365567

Chiltern Invadex Ltd 66-68 Manchester Road Chapel-en-le-Frith High Peak SK23 9TP

Tel: 01298 816366

Fax: 01298 816106

Chiltern Invadex (N.I.) Ltd 5 Balloo Way Balloo Industrial Estate Bangor County Down BT19 7QZ

Tel: 028 9145 0497

Fax: 028 9127 0046

Chiltern Invadex St.Kierans Enterprise Centre Furze Road Sandyford Industrial Estate Foxrock Dublin 18

Tel: 01 286 2726

Mob: 086 829 7541

website: www.chilterninvadex.co.uk

email: sales@chilterninvadex.co.uk

