



CAFÉ AND NURSERY

University Nursery

client University of Warwick

architect MJP Architects

net cost £1m area 720 m²

social focus with dual use

design for flexibility

Green Belt setting

A café and a nursery for 80 children are united in a new pavilion on Warwick University's campus, forming a social focus for nearby student and staff residences.

The building is set where well-used footpaths meet to enliven the campus and encourage passers-by to drop in. It is designed as a light, low pavilion nestling into its site, which is next to a lake and within the Green Belt. The café and nursery open to gardens with views of the lake and surrounding landscape.

The nursery is designed to support the University's approach to child care: strong

links are made between the 'home bases' and gardens, while a central 'street' provides a shared focus.

The flexible internal arrangement of the building allows the nursery to expand into the café for activities such as an After School Club, while the café can be used independently for private parties.

The building is formed of three volumes, prefabricated for speed of construction, clearly expressed internally and externally through form and colour. A generous flat roof sails over the building providing shelter for outside play and for the café terrace.