

# Canons Leisure Centre

## Re-designing Space to Meet Today's Leisure Trends...

### Changing Leisure Trends..

Canons Leisure Centre, located in the London Borough of Merton, is a substantial leisure amenity. It accommodates a fitness centre, swimming pools, sports hall, squash courts, a crèche and other indoor facilities. The centre, built in the 1970s, has a unique layout; it is spread over three buildings linked by ground and first floor corridors.

Our Client, a leisure operator, recognised the need to dramatically alter the centre to meet current leisure trends as well as a general refurbishment. Martin Associates provided feasibility options which identified under-utilised spaces and showed how they could be developed to maximise the potential of the centre.

Martin Associates, as Employer's Agent, managed the design and specification of the alterations, and the contract on behalf of the client.

### Inventive Design..

A spacious open plan gym was created by converting the first floor offices, catering kitchen, canteen and soft play area. Within this flexible space, Martin Associates provided design input to maximise its potential use; the area was zoned for cardio vascular, resistance and free

weights use, spinning, programmable areas. A gym office and training podiums with free standing flat screen TV pods were also incorporated into the design. An imaginative colour and lighting scheme were chosen to finish the transformation.

A contemporary dance studio, low impact studio, meeting room and crèche were created through the conversion the under-used squash courts. The reception area was redesigned, with a circular reception and enquiries desk. This is now the focal point of the centre providing a space for the client to raise awareness of the facilities and their brand.

We handled the Building Control approval, including resolving all accessibility issues at the centre to meet current legislation. This was achieved by various alterations particularly the installation of a stair transfer platform to make the dance studio and crèche fully accessible.

### Establishing a Framework..

Martin Associates supervised the procurement of the contract, which was delivered through the Client's Strategic Partnering Framework Agreement (SPFA). This framework established 3 strategic contracting partners for the Client to use in order to improve the construction process

through efficient decision making, establishing relationships of trust, and providing value for money.

We were instrumental in the selection and in establishment of the SPFA, guiding the Client through the Official Journal of the European Union process. The contractor was selected from this framework subject to the approval of the London Borough of Merton.

### A Shining Example...

The refurbishment of Canons Leisure Centre has allowed the centre to provide valuable facilities that meet contemporary leisure trends; encouraging use by existing and new members.



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