



HEADINGTON SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, OXFORD

Architects: Lyons Sleeman Hoare
Architects

Main Contractor: Beard Construction

Products: Topperfo Micro 2/2/0.5,
Veneered Solid Panels

Finish: European Oak Veneer

Completed: Winter 2020

Project Overview

The new auditorium at Headington School in Oxford was designed by Lyons Sleeman Hoare Architects to deliver exceptional acoustic performance within a warm, contemporary setting. For a school renowned for its performing arts, the challenge was to create a space where clarity of speech and richness of sound could coexist seamlessly.

To achieve this, the architects partnered with Acoustic Products, specifying Topakustik systems to balance sound absorption and reflection throughout the space.




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Design Challenge

The brief called for a multifunctional space capable of hosting everything from assemblies to musical performances. Achieving this required precise control over reverberation, ensuring the room remained lively without compromising speech intelligibility.

The architectural design also featured multi-pitched ceilings and integrated AV systems, demanding a careful balance between technical performance and aesthetic integrity.

Products Used

TOP)A)K)U)S)T)I)K) 

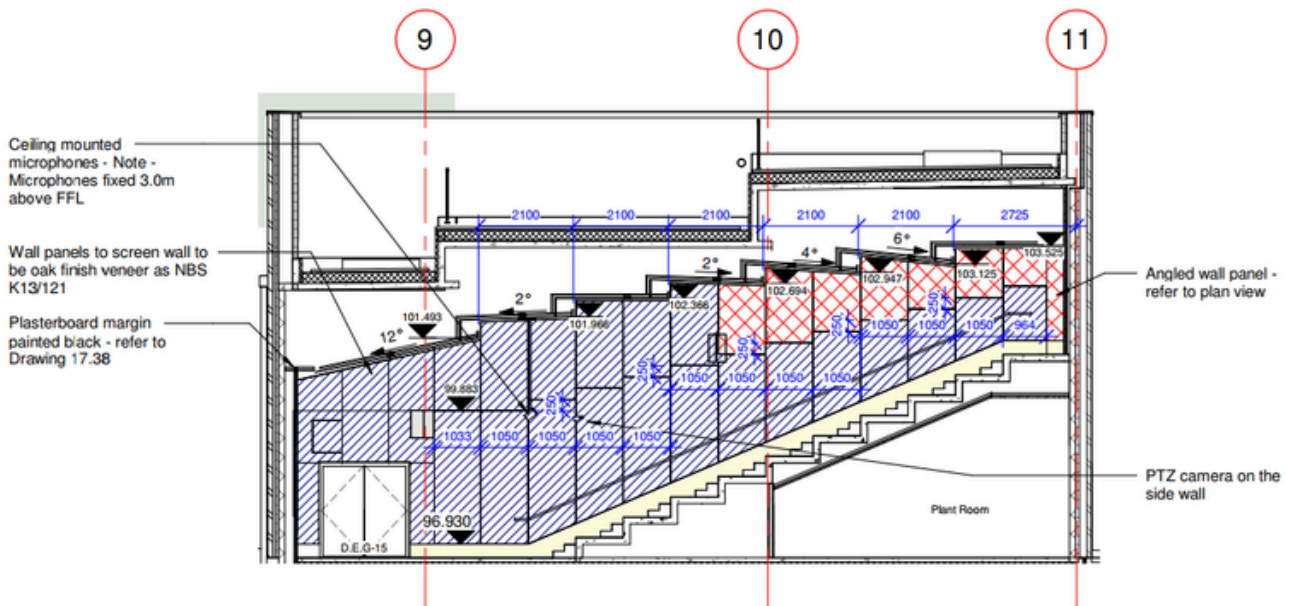
Topperfo Micro 2/2/0.5 – Absorption Class B, NRC 0.93

Veneered Solid Panels – Reflective ceiling panels
Finish: European Oak Veneer

FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT, SAMPLES
OR PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS,
CONTACT:

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 enquiries@acoustic-products.co.uk



2 | Lecture Theatre - Int. Elevation - North
1:100

Acoustic Solution

To meet these challenges, two complementary Topakustik systems were specified:

Topperfo Micro 2/2/0.5 panels were used across wall linings and sections of the ceiling to absorb excess sound. With an absorption coefficient of α_w 0.90 (Absorption Class B, NRC 0.93), they provide effective control of reverberation and ensure clear communication throughout the space.

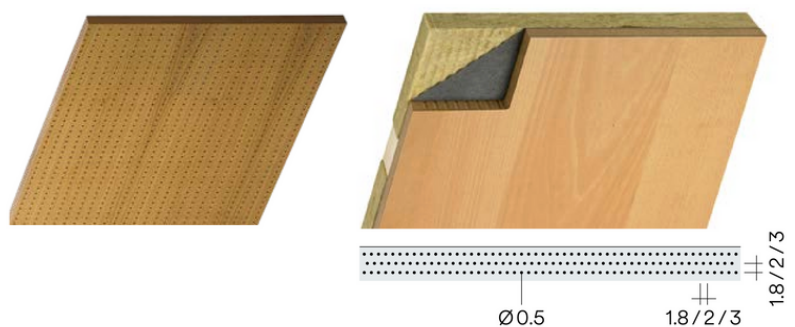
Veneered Solid Panels were installed as reflective surfaces at the base of the ceiling, allowing sound to carry evenly across the auditorium.

This combination of absorption and reflection created an acoustic balance ideal for both spoken and musical performance.

Material & Finish

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Sound absorption data acc. to ISO 354 Suspension height:









— approx. 226 mm

..... approx. 66 mm

with acoustic fleece and Mineral wool 40 mm (60 kg/m³)





Normally flammable D-s2,d0 / CH RF 3			Flame retardant B-s1,d0 / CH RF 2			RESAP® core panel, non-combustible*	
 Painted 16 mm	 Real wood veneer 17 mm	 Melamine 16 mm	 Painted 16 mm	 Real wood veneer 17 mm	 Melamine 16 mm	 Painted 16 mm	 Real wood veneer 17 mm
maximal							
3648 x 1216	3648 x 1216	3648 x 1216	3648 x 1216	3648 x 1216	3648 x 1216	3080 x 1216	3080 x 1216
ideal = means optimal use of MDF core – custom lengths are also available							
2032 x 992	2032 x 992	2032 x 992 / 640	2032 x 992 / 640	2032 x 992 / 640	2032 x 992 / 640	1540 x 608	1540 x 608
2780 x 992	2780 x 992	2780 x 992 / 640	2780 x 992 / 640	2780 x 992 / 640	2780 x 992 / 640	2540 x 608	2540 x 608
3648 x 640	3648 x 640			3640 x 640		3080 x 608	3080 x 608

* Absorption data on request



Project Outcome

The completed auditorium delivers a calm, high-performance acoustic environment that enhances communication, focus and creativity. Students and educators benefit from a space that both looks and sounds exceptional – a true example of how considered acoustic design can elevate learning and performance.



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