



Set in the Green Belt, the departure from Planning Policy required extensive negotiations between BH&M and Mid Sussex District Council. These were successful and the resulting scheme at Ardingly College consists of two 3-storey boarding houses sitting three and four metres below the adjacent road level.

The boarding houses contain study bed spaces for 60 boys. As the boarders range from ages 11 to 18, there are a number of different bedroom arrangements from four-bed mini-dorms for younger pupils to double study bedrooms with single study bedrooms for the older boarders. Each boarder is provided with a bed, wardrobe, study desk and chair and shelving. There is also in-built lighting for late night study, and single-bed rooms are provided with data points.

The two boarding houses are a mirror image of each other and are positioned to encapsulate an attractive, grassed courtyard conducive to the homely and secure environment the whole scheme had been designed to bestow. There are also parking facilities.



Support accommodation, in terms of social spaces for games and TV, kitchens and washrooms, and quiet study spaces with IT facilities is also provided. There is also accommodation to house **the Assistant Housemaster's and Housemaster's families**. This takes the form of a three-bed bungalow and a four-bed house located at either end of each block.

The new boarding houses are located at the edge of the College campus and are reached from the main College buildings by a short walk through the existing valley. A new bridge, steps and lighting have been designed to create a pleasant and safe environment for pupils whilst also blending in with the natural surroundings.

The project was completed on budget and programme and opened to the pupils for the start of the academic year in September 2003.



Top: Common Room
Middle: Kitchen
Bottom: Detail