

CASE STUDY

The final chosen option was to have a RUBB design sports building that would give the Academy:

- An asset of their own, eradicating the need for complex timetabling with the local sports centre
- Eradicating the need for the costly service diversions to link to the local sports centre
- Ability to hire out the facility to the community should they wish to receive an income from it, for example local gymnastics school, badminton classes etc.

The client's facilities manager & the Balfour Beatty team visited a similar facility in West Bromwich (also designed by RUBB). It was soon realised that this was a great alternative option for the school, although in an alternative form. *In this particular scenario*, a specialist, part-fabricated building had enormous benefits over the conventionally designed structure, such as,

- Speedy delivery
- Rapid installation
- Low life cycle costs
- *Air Permeability Test* - 1%
- Minimal foundation requirements

The Academy received accommodation of their own, instead of having to use shared facilities, and it was made affordable for them. The design team did have to overcome a few small challenges to ensure that such a design would be robust enough for a school environment and to ensure that what they had offered was indeed added value. To do this the team worked with the architects and the manufacturers RUBB to make the building:

- 40 ft longer, 50% bigger than the standard design of this kind
- Have increased robustness by the addition of metal cladding up to 3m in height to cope with the school environment (and eradicate the risk of puncture to the fabric structure)
- Enhance the fabric of the structure to comply with Part L Building Regulations. The fabric of the upper walls and roof is usually a simple, un-insulated skin, but RUBB also offer a *Thermohall* version (that they use commonly in colder climates, such as Norway). This was integrated into the design of the sports building.



Innovation- The *first ever* example of the *Thermohall* RUBB specification being built in the UK. A new opportunity also created for RUBB in that their main market in the UK is usually military camps, football arenas and the like.

The RUBB Sports Facility

