



MUSIC DEPARTMENT SOLUTION CAUSES ZERO NOISE



The challenge

Improvements to ageing buildings

Rangitoto College needed to carry out essential improvements to some of its ageing buildings. This meant the Ministry of Education had to help the school find alternative accommodation for its music department while the work was completed.

Associate Principal, Don Hastie admits their requirements were a little out of the ordinary. "It wasn't just a standard room we were after, we needed facilities that catered to running a large music department."

"We required a mini-IT suite for composing, a large room capable of holding a full orchestra, several practice rooms, and appropriate sound proofing so that the noise could not be heard in the adjacent classrooms."

To add to this, the accommodation is only required for about a year, had to be on school grounds with access being very difficult, and was required to be in place within three months.

The solution

Knowledge and hands on experience

As a regular supplier of temporary classrooms and administrative buildings to schools throughout the country, the Ministry of Education contacted Portacom Building Solutions.

"It was a pleasure to work in close collaboration with Portacom's education expert, Neil McLean – he really knows his stuff, and his innovative solutions included putting two rooms back-to-back to create one very large space", says Mr Hastie.

Together they scoped out the school's specific needs, and the plans were drawn up back in the Portacom Building Solutions office by its team of drafter's. Within six weeks, Portacom Building Solutions was able to transport seven buildings to Rangitoto School for site-set up.

Mr Hastie says that the site is a tight and awkward one to work on but praises the team for their professionalism and safety measures, which minimised any disruption to the staff and students.

Having full control of the project helped to ensure the site set-up went smoothly and the end result was delivered early and on budget, explains Neil McLean.

"We were given the reins to manage the entire project – from managing the tradespeople and the connections to services, right through to ensuring compliant engineer reports and fire safety checks were complete."

The result

Pleasing functionality

Mr Hastie describes the buildings and surrounding decks as impressive and functional, adding that he is pleasantly surprised by their 'permanent' feel and that staff and students alike would be more than happy to remain there.

"The orchestra sounds as beautiful as ever from the new space, and there has been no disruption to the curriculum", he concludes.

FAST FACTS

Project Name:

Rangitoto College

Client Name:

Ministry Of Education

Industry:

Education

Size:

Classroom – Seven 10.8m x 6m with surrounding decks, ramps, and steps

Year:

2013

Location:

Auckland

Features

- Carpet, heat pump
- Deck, ramp, steps, and handrails
- Vertiface Composition interior wall lining
- Roof mounted projector
- Alarmed - fire and security