

University Centre Farnborough College of Technology





Client

Farnborough College of Technology

Creative Partners

Nicholas Hare Architects

Contractor

Mace

Farnborough College of Technology is a successful Further Education College. To support its growth, and place in the community, a new building was commissioned to house a library and study centre, while also forming the new main campus entrance to the College.

Having worked directly with the College for over a decade, Cobal was delighted to partner with Nicholas Hare Architects and Mace as design and delivery partners for the signage and wayfinding for this esteemed institution on such a pivotal project.



The brief called for a striking building that would enhance the visibility of the College, creating a more immediate link between it and the surrounding community. Early in the project, the signage was identified as a key component of fulfilling this objective.

Cobal worked in close partnership with the Client, Nicholas Hare Architects and Mace, to deliver the vision of a high quality and impactful presence for the building internally and externally.



Defining a harmonious material and graphic language which delivered on the brief, whilst also reflecting the ethos and engineering reputation of the College was key to the success of the design. Both classic and contemporary FF DIN typography (created by famed Dutch typographer Albert-Jan Pool) was chosen for the principal signs used through the exterior and interior of the building. This was paired with a material palette of stainless steel and anodised aluminium.

The main entrance signs were made from precision cut, fine-grained, stainless steel letters, which are halo illuminated with LEDs. This created a warming juxtaposition against the pale textured brickwork, exposed steel columns and timber panels that form the structure.

Blending seamlessly into the fabric of the building and environment, external totems, made from aluminium, along with thoughtful wayfinding throughout the interior, create a logical and harmonious scheme to guide users through the space.



The result is bold and expressive signage and a wayfinding scheme that captures the striking character of the building, while radiating openness and clarity, welcoming everyone whether members of the College, of the local community or visitors.

“Cobal exceeded our expectations on every level from design, through to commissioning. The stunning results speak for themselves.”

Project Manager

Mace

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