

recently completed:
School of Public Health, London



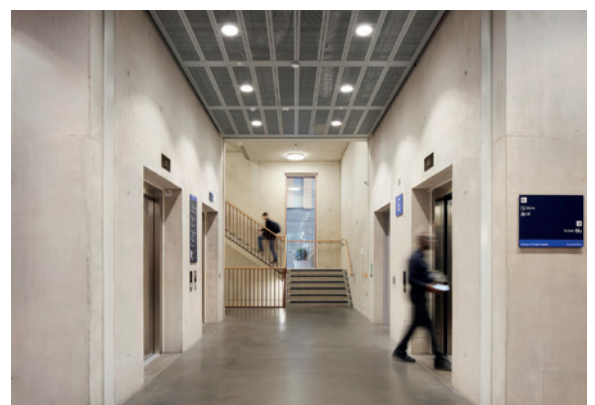
recently completed: **School of Public Health, London**

The new School of Public Health at Imperial occupies a key site on the university's White City campus. Designed for academics, researchers, students and public health professionals, the building provides a mixture of teaching, research and community outreach space for the school's multidisciplinary work in healthcare, health policy and epidemiology.

Advances in medical understanding derive from working partnerships, when practitioners and researchers are able to compare and validate data, test research findings and develop resources together. At the heart of the School of Public Health's design therefore is a drive to facilitate sharing and collaboration with spaces that can be shaped and reorganised to suit a range of functions, working practices and research groups.

The School is organised over ten floors (plus roof plant). The current configuration provides 3230 sqm of office, research and community engagement space over floors 3-7, with teaching space on floors 1 and 2. A basement accommodates cycle storage and plant. Floor plates are designed around a standard bay size for simple internal rearrangement. Each bay is 7.8m x 7.8m and can be arranged to provide everything from large open space to small cellular offices.

By pushing the building's core to the south, large flexible spaces with good daylight and minimal glare have been created on each typical floor. There are also areas on each floor providing staff and student amenity and informal social space. For privacy, the south facade is stepped, with east-facing windows concealed to turn away from the residential building opposite. The north facing facade by contrast is open and transparent.



On the ground floor, views through from the reception area to the generous daylit stairwell aid wayfinding and, in line with public health aspirations, encourage active circulation. Also on the ground floor a flexible and divisible 85 sqm space for community uses and outreach puts this important strand of the School's work on public display, clearly visible from and addressing the busy Wood Lane street.

Location and campus role

The School of Public Health is only an eight minute walk from Hammersmith Hospital Campus, and the building plays an important urban role, addressing visitors approaching from the north and marking arrival at the Imperial White City North Campus.

The building entrance is clearly located at the centre of a colonnade spanning the north elevation, while on its eastern side it addresses the small square at the heart of the campus. At 10-storeys, the School's height mediates between the scale of Victorian terraces on Wood Lane and the high-rise residential tower of 88 Wood Lane to the south.

Material palette

The architecture employs robust exposed finishes and a family of colours. Pale terracotta-coloured metal cladding with a sand-textured finish is used on the building's exterior alongside white pre-cast concrete facade panels.

Inside, fair-faced concrete, cast in-situ, and douglas fir, characterise the reception area and main circulation stair. Deep red acoustic panels and painted doors, as well as tiling and other finishes in kitchenettes and circulation spaces, WCs, and shower rooms pick up the colour theme.

Working with Imperial at White City Campus

The School of Public Health is the second new building that Allies and Morrison has completed for Imperial at White City Campus. The Sir Michael Uren Hub was completed in 2019. Immediately to the south of these two buildings is the next phase of Imperial's White City Campus development. It will deliver new teaching, research and innovation space for academics and businesses. This will support Imperial's continued expansion in mathematics, data and computer sciences, AI and machine learning and business. Our masterplan for this site gained planning consent in 2021.



Paul Eaton, Partner at Allies and Morrison said “The completion of the School of Public Health is an important milestone in both the development of the university’s White City Campus presence and also Allies and Morrison’s longstanding relationship with Imperial on this site.

“The School is a world leader in public health, and requires wide ranging spaces that can accommodate activities from rigorous data gathering and analysis, to policy communication and public engagement. As befits a School of Public Health the wellbeing of its users has been fundamental to the design approach; high quality, adaptable and inclusive workspaces enjoy expansive views, natural daylight and a carefully considered acoustic; the generous feature stair is daylit, with places to sit encouraging active use as well as providing space for interactions; and the ground floor community space provides an animated and active frontage fully engaging with the public the School is set up to serve.”

Neil Ferguson, Director of the School of Public Health said “The new School of Public Health building at the heart of Imperial’s White City Campus marks the realisation of a long-standing vision to create a state of the art home for the School. This facility puts us in the strongest possible position to address the most pressing public health challenges at a local, national and international level.”

Location	London W12
Uses	Science and Health, Workplace
Client	Imperial College London
Status	Completed
Size	7,940 sqm
Expertise	Architecture
Environmental	BREEAM Excellent targeted
Collaborators	Structure, Curtins; Services, Sustainability, Lighting, Hoare Lea; Facade, Buro Happold; Landscape, Gross Max; Cost, Arcadis
Photography	Jack Hobhouse

ABOUT ALLIES AND MORRISON

Allies and Morrison is a practice of architects and urbanists based in London, Cambridge, Manchester and Dublin. We design beautiful buildings that have long life and can adapt over the generations. We also shape enduring places, new pieces of city or settlements at any scale. All our projects are concerned with the crafting of detail and an appreciation for the uniqueness of each context.

alliesandmorrison.com / [@alliesandmorrison](https://twitter.com/alliesandmorrison)

ABOUT IMPERIAL WHITE CITY

Imperial’s White City Campus is where great ideas grow. An innovation-focused ecosystem, it co-locates world-leading academics, researchers, clinicians and businesses, providing cutting-edge research facilities alongside world-class space and support for early-stage companies. Today, it is home to more than 5,000 staff, students and organisations who are working together in areas including AI, medtech, engineering biology, chemistry and climate science.

The next phase of development will deliver new teaching, research and innovation space, bringing together academics and businesses, and supporting Imperial’s continued expansion in mathematics, data and computer sciences, AI and machine learning and business. Underpinned by environmental best practice and aligned to Imperial’s net-zero carbon commitment, the 23-acre development is being designed to encourage and enable collaboration throughout the campus and with external partners, industry and the public. When complete, more than 25,000 people will live, work and innovate at White City Campus.

www.imperial.ac.uk / [@imperialcollege](https://twitter.com/imperialcollege)