

## Hampton Community College – Music and Recording Studios



Hampton Community College is a specialist arts college based in South London. We were appointed to advise on refurbishment of the music department and specify recording studio systems and equipment. All work was to be within a challenging budget of £120k.

The existing music department was in a very poor state acoustically. This was primarily due to many basic acoustic faults, such as ill-fitting doors and lack of acoustic absorption, which resulted in a very noisy and unpleasant teaching environment.

Following an acoustic survey, we were able to identify that the building itself was intrinsically good, and substantial improvements could be made with a relatively modest investment. This was achieved by practical and economical means, such as changes of layout, wherever possible - avoiding the need for high-performance and costly constructions in many areas, and consequently allowing the budget to go further.

One of the features of our acoustic design was the provision of three practice rooms located directly off the main music room / recording studio. As well as being used for small group teaching as part of a music lesson, these rooms can be used as overdub booths for recording sessions, allowing maximum flexibility. A dedicated control room is located next to the music room with a large window allowing clear views between areas.



**Practice rooms located off classroom**



We also assisted the college in choosing audio and recording equipment. Particular challenges in this design were the need to make the equipment as user-friendly as possible for users with little technical training, while keeping the costs within the small budget available. Our report also had to explain the technology in non-technical terms as the client had very little expertise in this field. Our background and expertise in recording systems design in an educational context proved invaluable.

Client : Amadeus Acoustic Solutions  
Architect : Paul Tanner  
Contractors : Pryer Construction  
Project Value : £120,000

