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fermacell Project & Solution

The Learning Gateway Building, University of Cumbria, UK

- Student Learning & Accommodation Complex
- Project completed in 2009
- **fermacell** Gypsum Fibreboards (20,000 m²)

The Learning Gateway Building, University of Cumbria, UK

The Project

The Learning Gateway Building is the flagship and focal point of the university campus. It is the home of flexible learning in an innovative, interactive and adaptable space that offers students, visitors and staff an exciting and diverse range of learning opportunities and experiences. It has embedded technology and wireless network throughout. The building is made up of four floors, housing a student hub, offices, catering facilities and a café. The project has achieved a BREEAM "Very Good" rating and more than 20,000 m² of fermacell was installed.

Project requirement

The internal walls and partitions of a student facility are subject to serious knocks and extreme wear and tear. Therefore it was important that the walls in The Learning Gateway Building were able to withstand such a harsh day-to-day treatment. The different facilities within the Gateway Building required robust, durable and flexible walls that had to be moisture and fire resistant and provide superb sound insulation. The sustainability of all building materials was also of a high importance for the architects, who created a building that will stand the test of time and be future proof.

Solution

12.5 mm **fermacell** Gypsum Fibreboards were selected not only for the internal walls but also for the exterior as an external carrier board for the building's rainscreen cladding. fermacell walls proved to be durable and robust, ready to accept heavy traffic and usage. fermacell's superb racking strength enabled for high walls to be built and finished with ease and within tight time frames. A smooth plaster-type finish was achieved with **fermacell** fine surface treatment (FST), drying in only 45 minutes.



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