

in brief



Fundermax ticks all the right boxes

Materials:	1,700sqm Fundermax - Samuel Lister Academy 1,300sqm Fundermax - Beckfoot Upper Heaton
Fixing System:	Bracket and rail - Nvelope
Architect:	Atkins Global
Main Contractor:	Laing O'Rourke
Brief:	A HPL solution that would fit the specified budget, but also last the test of time
Challenges:	Limited on-site space meant reliance on accurate off-site fabrication
How VIVALDA helped:	Precision CNC and pre-drilling of all panels, which were palletised and delivered in accordance to the sub-contractors requirements, saving valuable time and money during the installation process on-site.

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The Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP) is an initiative set out to support school developments within nominated areas of the UK. Based on a previously successful PSBP project within the North West, Laing O'Rourke invited VIVALDA to supply four brand new school developments in Yorkshire. The first of which was Samuel Lister, completed in November 2016 and Beckfoot Upper Heaton, which completed in December 2016.

VIVALDA Hull took lead on the first design meeting with the contractor and based on the brief provided, Fundermax was quickly introduced to the conversation. Durability and longevity were central to the requirements, something that the Fundermax product offered in abundance. Laing O'Rourke were highly impressed with the 'Hail Impact Resistance' test which is quite unique for a cladding manufacturer to conduct. The test essentially fires solid ice balls from a cannon onto different areas of the façade at top speeds, with the results proving excellent for Fundermax - zero impact.

Fundermax were also able to demonstrate a significant cost saving compared to other HPL products being considered at the time. Fundermax's Peter Watson said:

"Being part of VIVALDA's core offering has allowed this opportunity for our product to really shine. It's rewarding that Fundermax won this project not only due to cost-effectiveness, but also down to the resilience of our façade"

The merits also extended to high resistance to graffiti, with the ability to use acetone directly onto the façade without causing deterioration.

VIVALDA carried out the full fabrication requirements on these projects, including precision CNC and pre-drilling of all the boards. Further, VIVALDA palletised the panels in accordance to the sub-contractors order of elevation, reducing time spent on-site. This was particularly useful due to the limited space available on the site.

Based on this successful roll-out, Laing O'Rourke are already looking at further school development projects, with 3,500m² of Fundermax lined up for the Manchester Enterprise Academy, due for completion Nov 17.



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VIVALDA is the UK's No.1 distributor of external cladding panels, building boards and fixing systems. Our bespoke fabrication services means we are able to shape, drill, bevel, cut and finish to almost any specification. All delivered to site on time and on budget. We understand the education sector well based on our many projects delivered into schools, FE and HE establishments around the country.

Contact VIVALDA today for your next project.