

St Paul's Care Home Hemel Hempstead, Herts

Alexander Sedgley have recently been involved in the construction of an 88-bedroom care home completed in June 2009.

The site is located within a predominantly residential area, and we have considered the scale and form of the development carefully. The site is challenging in terms of levels and its constrained nature. We have addressed these constraints by creating a building that is efficient for its size and is comfortable with its context.

The design is in accordance with specialised care needs, reflecting current care requirements as well as DDA requirements. St. Paul's care Centre provides room for intermediate care, residential care, nursing care and care for older people with dementia.

Continuous corridors have been provided around a central courtyard to satisfy the needs of the residents, providing orientation to the bedrooms and social areas.

Importantly, the bedrooms are carefully orientated so they either have views outwards to framed views or to a sensitively landscaped internal courtyard. The courtyard is important to the overall scheme as it provides not just a calm and relaxing sheltered space but creates an area with an emphasis on sensory delight, an extension of the internal social areas. In general, the landscape will be treated as domestic in scale.

Sustainability is an important consideration and St. Paul's Care Centre has been designed to consider the following:

- Rainwater recycling to hydrate the gardens.
- Solar panels are linked to a system which provides hot water for the laundry.
- Efficient level of insulation.
- Recyclable and sustainable materials.
- Natural ventilation where possible.

Main Contractor: Bryen and Langley
Structural Engineer: Glyn H. Robinson Assoc.
Services Engineer: I.E.I.
Project Manager: Aedifice Partnership



Site plan



Front elevation



Internal courtyard



Day room