

## York St John University

Architect: Watson Batty Architects

Product: Western Red Cedar Cubic Fins

Part of the Strategic Campus Masterplan, the relocation of the Students' Union to the heart of the Lord Mayor's Walk Campus brings together core student facing services which will support and enhance the student experience at the university. The new Students' Union building at York St John University, completed with a modern and dynamic style, provides dedicated office and admin facilities for the Students' Union along with a new reception for student services. Situated opposite the recently completed dining room project, the state-of-the-art Students' Union houses a Starbucks coffee bar at first floor and a bar at ground floor, while the former art block has been transformed giving way to an events space for up to 400 students.

The design solution brings together two existing buildings where the resulting external façade is split into three elements; a rendered admin block to the left and render and Marley Eternit clad bar areas to the right, brought together by the central timber Brise Soleil clad entrance.

The bar and coffee bar elements were designed to give the look and feel of that of a city centre venue to enable students to relax in their down time between their studies. Taking some inspiration from the popular current industrial interior design trend, the exposed ceilings and ductwork are combined with bespoke metalwork and heritage brick effect walls. These are then juxtaposed with bright vibrant blocks of colour, such as the bar floor tiles and soft furnishings to create a unique, fun and fresh space that appeals to the current student population.

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