

Connect

September 2018

It's the end of another busy summer of designing, manufacturing and installing canopies for the education sector, but there's no time to rest at Twinfix. We've got a host of rail projects on the go and a busy month of exhibitions in October. Phew...

Twinfix marks first use of its bolted glass canopies



Pioneering polycarbonate roofing supplier Twinfix has marked the first use in the UK of its premium bolted glass canopy.

In fact, two of its new "spider-bolt" contemporary canopies have been used at the new Trumpington Park Primary School which supports the new Great Kneighton housing development near Cambridge, along with an existing secondary school and existing library building.

Designed by architects Frank Shaw Associates for main contractor Kier, the design was based on Bulletin 103 guidance but was developed in close consultation with the sponsor Cambridge Primary Education Trust (CPET) and Cambridgeshire County Council and was tailored to suit their preferred educational vision and pedagogy.

One 20m long canopy floats above the main entrance, the other runs for 40m along the children's outside activity learning zone.

Norman Paterson of Frank Shaw Associates said the Twinfix bolted glass canopies specification had been a main contractor preference and they had "complied well" with the aesthetic and performance requirements of the project and were a "good looking product".

He also said the canopies had provided "simple and effective details designed to be autonomous" and added: "The building has been well received and is generally regarded as raising the bar for primary school design in Cambridgeshire."

At Trumpington Park the canopies abut the building's façade above the galvanised steel plinth while at the other end, they deliberately fall short of the horizontal supports at the entrance and overlap them at the outside activity learning zone. These cantilever canopies are also designed to be reverse pitch to allow drainage into a gutter next to the building and to keep the overall look sleek.

Manufactured from galvanised steel and glazed with laminated glass, they are fixed using satin stainless steel bolts with silicone seals. The use of bolts to fix the glass, rather than glazing bars, creates clean lines and large, open areas of glass.

As well as blending seamlessly against a modern building such as Trumpington Park Primary School the contemporary Twinfix canopies can also be used on more traditional and historic buildings to clearly show the contrast.

New literature

Due to growing popularity, a Timber Canopies leaflet is now available to download from our website or we can pop a copy in the post for you.



Facebook

We now have a Facebook page dedicated to canopies for the education sector. It is primarily aimed at Head Teachers, Teachers, Teaching Assistants and School Governors who have an interest in the provision of an outdoor covered area at their premises.

@canopiesforschools



New additions to our RIBA NBS Specifications

Three more products have been added to our portfolio of RIBA NBS Specifications, which are available to view on the Specification & BIM page of our website.

The recent additions are:

- **Multi-Click** – polycarbonate vertical glazing system
- **In-Line Access Hatch** – access hatch panel with 6 mm polycarbonate glazing
- **Bolted Glass Canopy** – bolted glass canopy, glazed with toughened laminated glass



CHAS and RISQS

Twinfix are delighted to announce that they have gained their CHAS and RISQS accreditations for another year.

These accreditations are an important standard for Twinfix, demonstrating that health and safety is adequately managed.

Twinfix panel system was the "cherry on the cake" at Wigan Wallgate

Historic railway station gets a stunning new entrance canopy.

An innovative modular rooflight system that can be installed in a fraction of the time of traditional split-bar glazing systems and is also non-fragile was the "cherry on the cake" for the refurbishment of a main line railway station's Grade II listed entrance canopy.

Twinfix's Multi-Link-Panel system glazed with Georgian wired polycarbonate was specified by Network Rail for the entrance canopy element of a £1 million refurbishment of historic Wigan Wallgate station in Lancashire.

The glazing panels, each comprising fast-track "fix and link" aluminium structural bars glazed with 6mm solid Georgian wired polycarbonate, were pre-assembled at Twinfix's factory in Warrington, Cheshire, for delivery to site for installation by specialist contractor Everlast Rail.

Everlast's contracts manager Colin Duxbury said: "Though we had knowledge of this system, we had not previously installed it. Twinfix arranged the delivery of all components to our site compound behind the station. The components were all marked up and came with a layout drawing showing which piece fitted where.

"The installation was relatively straightforward aided by a couple of instructive visits by Twinfix installers. The relatively narrow gutters made for a tight fit for some components but all in all everything came together on time with thanks to Twinfix for making a couple of emergency deliveries.

He added: "Once our installation teams got into the swing of things everything went well and the finished roof looked very smart. Twinfix Multi-Link was chosen

primarily because of its non-fragile qualities – its ability to remain intact when subject to impact loading."

Polycarbonate is typically 200 times tougher and half the weight of glass and at Wigan Wallgate, combined with the Multi-Link-Panels which can be installed in two thirds of the time of traditional split-bar glazing systems, the system performed to Class B of the HSE's recommended drop test ACR [M] 001:2014 "Test for non-fragility of profiled sheeting roofing assemblies."

Colin said: "The new roof had to be approved by Wigan's Conservation Officer. For understandable reasons he took his time reviewing samples of the proposed roof and needed a few site visits before finally granting his approval."

Paul Childs, company secretary for the Railway Heritage Trust which part-funded the project, said: "The trust was most impressed with Network Rail's recent sympathetic refurbishment of the forecourt canopy at Wigan Wallgate, particularly the use of Twinfix's Georgian wired polycarbonate.

"The Georgian wired glass effect and surface texture of the material offered an appropriate and practical alternative solution to traditional glazing for this railway heritage application."



We're on the ball...

On Friday 15th June Twinfix participated in The Christie Charity Football Tournament, a 6-a-side tournament organised by Interserve to raise money for The Christie.

Twinfix are always particularly keen to support cancer charities and our team of eight were raring to go. We didn't bring the trophy home, but we did have a great afternoon.



Pleased to meet you!



October 2018 is exhibition month for Twinfix. Why not come and say hello at any of the following:

TransCityRail North –
Oct 4 – The Principal Hotel,
Oxford Road, Manchester

Build Show –
Oct 9-11 – NEC, Birmingham

Education Estates –
Oct 16-17 – Manchester
Central

Modular Matters –
Oct 30 – NEC, Birmingham



MPBA Membership

Canopies are often used as part of a modular building project to create additional play and learning space. They allow outside areas to be transformed into useful places and become a real asset that can be fully utilised.

We provide many different styles and shapes of canopy in either free-standing or lean-to options. Free-standing canopies are often key when used with modular buildings where the structure for the building may not be suitable to support the weight of a lean-to canopy. To support our work in the modular building sector we have become members of the Modular & Portable Building Association.



TWINFIX®

Twinfix Limited
201 Cavendish Place, Birchwood Park,
Birchwood, Warrington, WA3 6WU

01925 811311
enquiries@twinfix.co.uk
www.twinfix.co.uk
Follow us on Twitter: @Twinfix

Follow us on social media and stay up-to-date with our latest news.

@Twinfix Twinfix Limited