



The Neville Childhood Epilepsy Centre, NCYPE, Lingfield, Surrey

The Neville Childhood Epilepsy Centre opens 18/12/09

The new Neville Childhood Epilepsy centre has been formally opened by Lord (Geoffrey) Howe of Aberavon CH QC . The development on the National Centre for Young People with Epilepsy (NCYPE)'s campus at Lingfield, Surrey, is significant as it is the first purpose-built childhood epilepsy centre for assessment, treatment and research in the UK and is the only specialist facility of its kind. Named after the man who devised the concept - leading paediatric neurologist NCYPE trustee Professor Brian Neville - the centre is designed to be an international resource for paediatric epilepsy.

The form and layout of the bespoke centre was generated by a genuine commitment to create an unrivalled research and medical centre. Existing 1960s buildings formed the core of the development and elements of new build include a residential assessment unit, a medical wing specifically designed for children with epilepsy and a telemetry wing. These new buildings are positioned at the rear of the existing buildings and are connected by two glazed links. A new conference wing, dedicated to visiting research fellows and clinicians from Great Ormond Street Hospital and from across Europe, has been added to the west side of the centre. Existing buildings have been extensively refurbished, remodelled and clad in a fresh off-white insulating render to harmonise with the new development and the result is a cohesive medical and research centre with a striking new entrance and reception area.

Inside, all the spaces are designed to provide a suitable environment for young people aged from 6-19 years who have a wide range of complex neurological conditions in addition to epilepsy including Aspergers, autism as well as moderate to profound and multiple learning difficulties. The light, vibrant interior provides a comfortable, friendly environment for children and young people. Student consultation influenced the interior design of the project which is characterised by curved walls, tactile surfaces and its use of warm colours. The building has also been designed so that every space has an external view to take full advantage of the attractive mature landscaped campus.

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