



*The new Vocational  
 and Business  
 Enterprise Centre*

## **Wilmington Enterprise College's new Vocational and Business Enterprise Centre (09/05/07)**

Lee Evans Partnership has just completed a new Vocational and Business Enterprise Centre for Wilmington Enterprise College, Dartford, a specialist Business and Enterprise College and Kent Vocational Centre for Land-Based Learning. The new 360 sqm centre is the first of its kind in Kent and offers superb land-based learning facilities which include a horticultural workshop, provision for cleaning equipment as well as an extensive plot of land to the rear of the building and a garden to the front where students can gain practical cultivation experience. A 700 gallon water storage tank, which harvests water from the roof, has been incorporated for irrigation purposes. A business office which simulates a real working environment, an IT suite, and lecture facilities are also included in the new centre. The attractive single storey building is built on the concrete slab of a Horsa building. The framework of the Horsa has also been retained and integrated into the new scheme which has a timber frame with larch cladding. Eco-features include sun pipes and mono-vents to encourage natural ventilation. The works involved extensive configuration of existing disabled facilities and a covered walkway links the centre to the school hall. The building will formally open on 3 July and students have already started work on the new planting scheme.

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