

Case Study: UCL – Sustainable Student Breakout Spaces

Client: University College London

Location: Upper Floor, Main Campus

Sector: Higher Education / Student Experience

Duration: Completed Late 2024

Contract Type: Refurbishment & Sustainable Fit-Out

Completion: On Time & Within Budget

Project Overview

Quest Interiors was appointed by UCL to design and deliver new **student breakout spaces** tailored for final-year students. The project focused heavily on **sustainability and reuse**, aligning with UCL's environmental goals while enhancing the student experience.

Scope of Works

- Creation of **modern breakout areas** with flexible layouts and collaborative zones.
- Extensive **reuse and upcycling** of existing materials and furniture:
- **Reupholstering** of existing seating.
- Careful removal and **repurposing of veneer panels** for feature wall cladding.
- Sourcing of **sustainable flooring and finishes** with high environmental ratings.
- Coordination of works on the **top floor of a live academic building**, requiring shared access management and minimal disruption.

Challenges & Solutions

The project began during the 2024 Christmas break and continued into the academic term. Quest Interiors implemented strict dust control measures and worked closely with building management to phase access and maintain a low-impact site presence. The reuse strategy required detailed planning and skilled craftsmanship, particularly from Quest's in-house carpentry team.

Outcome

The breakout spaces were completed on time and within budget, with two areas now in full use. The project has been praised for its **sustainable approach, quality of finish, and student-focused design**, reinforcing Quest Interiors' ability to deliver thoughtful, future-ready environments in complex settings.



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LONDON

