In this time of diminishing finance and increasing competition we can help you maximise the potential of your assets for short and long term needs.

While the design challenge of new buildings is always welcome, our favoured starting point is an analysis of your estate that may lead to refurbishment or new buildings or a combination of the two. It also promises better space utilisation, a more efficient approach to carbon and the provision of facilities that will help you retain staff, attract the best students and grow your reputation.

We at Penoyre & Prasad take pride in developing and maintaining a close understanding of the Higher Education sector.

As a result we have designed a series of highly regarded projects that are helping Universities meet their core objectives, such as improving contact and collaboration between researchers at St George’s University of London; maximising study spaces at University of Kent’s Templeman Library; blurring the boundaries between the Schools of Business and Maths and between academics and students at Kent’s Sibson Building; and greatly improving space utilisation at Ruskin College, Oxford.

Penoyre & Prasad design consistently successful Higher Education environments to help achieve our clients’ ambitions as educators and businesses.

‘The new wing of the Templeman Library means many things to me, but mainly: bright, bold and inspirational.’

Dr Simon Kirchin, Dean Faculty of Humanities, University of Kent
Evaluating your estate to maximise your assets

Our masterplanning work has helped Universities and Colleges bring more coherence to their campuses, make the most of their existing buildings, and identify key locations for future development or higher value areas for investment.

We analyse major urban design issues to address fundamental principles such as space utilisation and efficiency, circulation, transport, access and connectivity to the wider community.

Once we have identified the key issues, we offer clients a range of relevant and appropriate strategic options. These may include adaptation, relocation, refurbishment, demolition and new build with consideration of phasing and costs.

At the University of Portsmouth our urban design analysis ensured the new Library building addressed the network of student movement routes around the city, and enhanced connectivity by creating a public route through the building and bridging a public path to the adjacent park.

The University of Portsmouth’s Eldon Site Masterplan analyses the most space efficient arrangement for combining six departments into a new Faculty. It also sets out a phased refurbishment programme and identifies locations for new building and future expansion to maximise use of this inner city site.

Our masterplans for phased developments help unlock value over the long term while creating attractive and well-used new places.
Beautifully designed, iconic buildings have the power to enhance the status of an institution

Designs to enhance reputation

UK Universities are operating in an increasingly globalised and competitive environment. Investing in new and better quality buildings has been shown to help attract the best students. In an era of rationalisation and refurbishment there is still a need for the innovative and iconic.

Our major new 5,400m$^2$ extension and 12,500m$^2$ refurbishment of the Templeman Library, University of Kent (left), includes new archive, teaching spaces and 250-seat lecture theatre. Now the largest library in Kent, it is used by 9,000 students daily.

Birkbeck, University of London — extension and refurbishment of existing 1920s building, Cambridge House, to create a new 1,850m$^2$ Teaching & Learning Centre. Taking advantage of the prominent location, the project showcases Birkbeck to a wider audience and establishes Cambridge House as a vibrant new campus destination and Teaching Centre for Birkbeck students and staff.

This new flagship academic hub successfully brings together the School of Business and the School of Maths into a single 8,200m$^2$ building comprising interactive social learning areas, innovative teaching environments, academic workspace and open plan research space.

Our new centre for the Faculty of Creative and Cultural Industries at the University of Portsmouth creates a 4,600m$^2$ building which communicates the Faculty’s vibrant identity within both the University and the City.
Managing a low carbon estate

In line with their intellectual status, many HE Institutions are, leading the debate about long term sustainability through their approach to their own estates and buildings.

Government has set targets of 80% carbon reduction by 2050. The HE sector target for 2020 is equivalent to a reduction of 43% against a 2005 baseline.

In coming years carbon reduction commitments will become more linked to funding. With the Green University League published yearly, sustainability is also a key factor in attracting students.

At Goodenough College, London we produced a campus wide Sustainable Framework for Energy and Carbon Reduction to improve overall energy management, prioritise retrofit programmes and set targets and strategies for new projects. As part of this work we carried out financial assessments to include utility savings, payback periods and life cycle costings.

On both new build and retrofit projects we design to achieve real sustainability – long term loose fit buildings with simple, robust and well integrated services that meet high BREEAM targets.

The real test of design quality comes some time after a building is completed. We work with Oxford Brookes University on Post Occupancy Evaluations of our completed buildings.

Recladding Guy’s Tower, occupied by King’s College London and Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Trust, tackles energy and performance issues common to civic and education estates of the period. The new façade reduces energy use by up to 20%.

Our Library at the University of Portsmouth achieved BREEAM Excellent for its inexpensive and well integrated services. Low energy and user comfort were the key drivers for an innovative, assured natural ventilation system.

University of the Arts London (UAL) – New Studios for Wimbledon College of Arts are designed as a simple, flexible enclosure with excellent natural light and ventilation. They provide high quality multi-purpose spaces suitable for a range of courses.

Studies are clear of internal structure, with ventilation, heating and lighting systems zoned, such that the spaces can be sub-divided into self sufficient sections in the future.

The building has an A+ EPC rating, is certified BREEAM Outstanding and with a score of 95.2 is the highest to date for an educational building. It has won a number of sustainability and architectural awards.
Student experience at the heart of our designs

Student expectations have already played a huge part in the development of the modern campus. Now, significantly increased fees mean students are looking even more closely at the whole experience that a University can offer – not just excellent teaching and world class educational facilities, but high quality environments, enjoyable social, dining and study areas, integrated leisure and accommodation, and reliable security and safety.

Students expect the same level of quality and choice at University as they can find on the high street as consumers. We are expert in the creation of comfortable, adaptable environments where students can access information, interact with one another and use a variety of supporting spaces and services.

This new, 8,000m² Learning & Teaching Centre at Brunel University London provides a variety of spaces for Brunel’s evolving student-centred pedagogies.

The Centre is conceived as a flexible rig of team-based learning and teaching spaces, organised around a central spine of informal learning spaces. This ‘learning commons’ flows up through the building, in a series of IT enriched stairs, platforms and balconies through the central atrium.

Today’s dynamic model of teaching and learning is built around good space utilisation so that everywhere is part of an integrated social learning landscape.

The new Faculty for Creative and Cultural Industries, Portsmouth is flooded with social learning spaces throughout this five storey building.
'Throughout Sibson, staff and students are now working alongside each other, in a way that could never have been considered possible before.'

Paul Verrion, client lead
Kent Business School
Specialist spaces, such as laboratories, are subject to rapidly changing technologies and working methods. We design long-term loose-fit buildings with robust structural and servicing strategies that reduce energy use, are easy to maintain and intuitive to control.

Medical and research laboratories

Research and teaching can require highly controlled environmental conditions, but also feed on ideas generated by conversation, often between those from different disciplines or research areas.

It is this interaction between individuals that we sought to energise at St George’s University of London by radically transforming the pattern of occupation from allocated individual offices and laboratories to open plan shared spaces adjacent to Category 2 & 3 laboratories for the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences. This transformation of the environment immediately captures a new identity for the University, of interaction and inter-connectedness.

At The Jenner Building, St George’s University of London, we refurbished office and workspace, transforming small cellular rooms into a fluid set of work and study spaces, improving space efficiency as well as academic and social interaction.

Laboratories located in the heart of the plan are visually connected to write up spaces. This gives the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences the flexibility to form and reform teams around new research leaders and projects, getting the best from both people and space.
University libraries easily adaptable for the future

We understand the criteria for a successful modern academic library and how best to improve existing University libraries to achieve this.

We create successful state-of-the-art academic libraries that are welcoming places for active enquiry, providing a wide spectrum of environments to suit many different needs.

Emergent digital technologies mean continually evolving needs. We design our libraries for future flexibility.

Long-term loose-fit buildings with robust structural and servicing strategies allow for re-configuration with minimal changes to power, acoustics and data, without affecting overall ventilation and fire strategies.

In addition to providing a 4,000m$^2$ extension and new entrance to The University Library, Portsmouth we have given the original 1970s building a new lease of life. The remodel, carried out over the summer months while the library remained in use, dramatically increases the number and range of study spaces available to students.

Major new 5,400m$^2$ extension and 12,500m$^2$ refurbishment of the Templeman Library, University of Kent, including new archive, teaching spaces and 250-seat lecture theatre. Now the largest library in Kent, it is used by 9,000 students daily.
The New Theatre Royal and the University of Portsmouth have joined forces to create a new cultural and creative hub to foster collaboration and creative exchange. Facilities include a new stage tower and new performance, dance, drama and media production spaces.

Manchester Engineering Campus Development for University of Manchester – £350m new 83,000m² Engineering Campus bringing together four schools and two institutes with many specialist requirements including: Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Materials and Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering, The International Centre for Advanced Materials and the Dalton Nuclear Institute.

Specialist facilities

The industries of the 21st century will depend increasingly on the generation of knowledge through creativity and innovation. From fashion to artificial intelligence the emergence of the creative and cultural industries sector as a significant player in the UK economy is gaining momentum.

Our new flagship building for the University of Portsmouth’s Faculty of Creative and Cultural Industries is designed to foster innovation, creativity and collaboration. The project brings together six schools into one location, with shared facilities, workshops and café space to encourage more collaboration across the disciplines.
Selected recent Education & Sustainability Awards

2018
RIBA ‘Regional Award’: Shortlist, Sibson Building, University of Kent

2017
Blueprint Awards, ‘Best Public-Use Project with Public Funding’: Shortlist, Sibson Building, University of Kent
AJ Awards, ‘Higher Education Project of the Year’: Shortlist, Sibson Building, University of Kent
Civic Trust Awards: Finalist, Sibson Building, University of Kent
Concrete Society Award: Highly Commended, Templeman Library Extension & Refurbishment, University of Kent
World Architecture Festival Award ‘Higher Education & Research’: Finalist, Sibson Building, University of Kent
Graphisoft UK ‘Public Sector Project of the Year Award’: Winner, Templeman Library, University of Kent

RIBA ‘Sustainability Award’: Winner, New Studio, Wimbledon College of Arts
RIBA ‘Regional Award’: Winner, New Studio, Wimbledon College of Arts

2016
New London Award, ‘Ashden Prize for Sustainability’: Winner, New Studio, Wimbledon College of Arts

2015
RIBA ‘National Award’: Winner, Ashmount Primary School and Bowlers Nursery
RIBA ‘London Regional Award’: Winner, Ashmount Primary School and Bowlers Nursery
LABC ‘Best Educational Building’: Winner, ARK Brunel Primary Academy & Mixed-Use Scheme

2014
Green Apple Award: Winner, Wimbledon College of Art
AJ100 ‘Sustainable Practice of the Year’ Award Winner
RIBA ‘London Regional Award’: Shortlist, Crouch Hill Community Park

2013
BD Architect of the Year Award: Education Architect of the Year Finalist
RIBA Award: Shortlist, Ruskin College
AJ100 ‘Value Excellence’ Award: Shortlist, Crouch Hill Community Park

2012
Retrofit Expo Awards, ‘Domestic Retrofit Project of the Year’: Retrofit for Living, shortlist
AJ100, ‘Most Sustainable Practice’ Award, shortlist
BREEX Award for Highest Scoring Project, Education Sector: Crouch Hill Park
BCSE Award Finalist, ‘Test of Time’: Minster School

2011
BD Architect of the Year Award: Finalist, Education Architect of the Year
Three Rs, Housing ‘Small’ Award: Retrofit for Living
RIBA Award: Merchants’ Academy
Civic Trust Award: Commendation, Merchants’ Academy
BCSE Award, Inspiring Design: Merchants’ Academy
BCSE Award, Best External Environment: Highly Commended, Merchants’ Academy
BCSE Awards, Best School Architect: Highly Commended

2010
BD Architect of the Year Award: Runner-up, Education Architect of the Year

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Penoyre & Prasad is a multi-sectoral architectural practice.
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