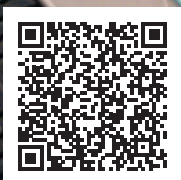




Delivering Moving Floor Pool Innovation at Oxlow Bridge School

CASE STUDY





Client: Oxlow Bridge School
Location: Dagenham
Architect: 3BM
Contractor: Willmott Dixon
Sector: Specialist Education

Aspiration: A Flexible Hydrotherapy Environment Designed Around Every Pupil

Oxlow Bridge School required a safe, accessible and future-ready hydrotherapy facility that could support pupils with a wide range of complex physical needs.

Accessibility was central to the brief, but the school also wanted a solution that offered greater flexibility for pupils with different levels of mobility and confidence in the water. The facility needed to support therapeutic activity while reducing manual handling demands on staff and making access as straightforward and dignified as possible.

Delivered through the Department for Education programme, the aspiration was to create an innovative hydrotherapy environment that could adapt around the individual rather than requiring every pupil to use the pool in the same way.

Simplified by Innova

Innova worked closely with 3BM, Willmott Dixon and the Oxlow Bridge team to develop a coordinated hydrotherapy and hoisting solution around the school's clinical, operational and educational requirements.

By bringing specialist design expertise, equipment specification and installation together through one partner, Innova helped ensure accessibility, compliance and long-term usability were considered throughout the project.

The approach included:

- An innovative moving-floor hydrotherapy pool.
- Adjustable pool depth to support different users and activities.
- Integrated ceiling-track hoisting for safe and dignified transfers.
- Coordinated access between changing and hydrotherapy spaces.
- Design developed around pupils with varying mobility requirements.
- Early consideration of long-term operation and ease of use.

The completed installation became the first moving-floor pool for a SEN school delivered through the Department for Education programme.



Future-Proofed by Design

The floor of the pool can be raised to create level access before being lowered to the required treatment depth, helping support pupils with different levels of mobility and confidence in the water. Integrated ceiling-track hoisting further improves access, creating a safer and more dignified transfer process while reducing manual handling demands on staff. These design features give the school greater flexibility to adapt the hydrotherapy environment as pupil needs and therapy requirements evolve.

By combining adjustable pool depth with integrated hoisting, the facility can support a wide range of users and activities over the long term, helping Oxlow Bridge make the most of its investment for years to come.

Specification Highlights

- Innovative moving-floor hydrotherapy pool.
- First moving-floor pool for a SEN school delivered through the DfE programme.
- Adjustable water depth supporting pupils with varying mobility levels.
- Level pool-floor access when the moving floor is raised.
- Integrated ceiling-track hoisting.
- Coordinated provision for safe and dignified transfers.
- Hydrotherapy environment designed around therapeutic, operational and educational needs.
- Coordinated design, supply and installation through one specialist partner.

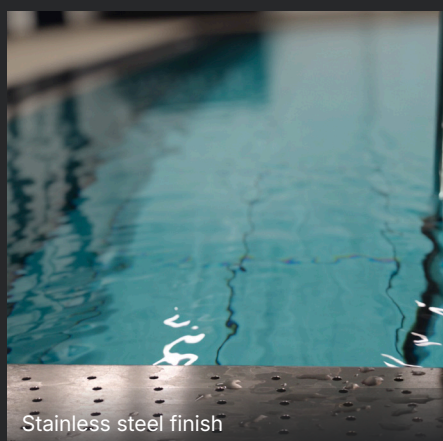
Challenges, Outcome & Value Delivered

Oxlow Bridge School required a hydrotherapy environment that could accommodate pupils with a broad range of complex physical needs while supporting safer transfers and reducing manual handling demands on staff. Innova brought the pool and hoisting requirements together as one coordinated accessibility solution.

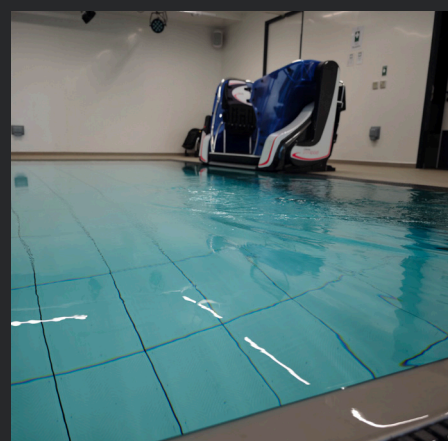
The completed moving-floor pool provides a flexible therapeutic environment that can be adapted to individual users and activities. Together with integrated hoisting, the facility supports greater accessibility, participation and independence for pupils while helping staff deliver hydrotherapy more safely and efficiently.



Pool at raised level and submersible platform lift



Stainless steel finish



X-Y hoisting system with 200kg capacity



Hydrotherapy pool plant room







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