“successfully fulfills the objective of creating a modern inspiring building that will make a distinctive statement whilst contributing positively to the architectural value of buildings on the college campus.”

Planning Officer at Adur District Council
Lancing College forms a picturesque landmark at a key location on the south coast, straddling a prominent downland spur above the River Adur. It is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty within the boundary of the proposed National Park, and in the curtilage of listed buildings that include a Grade I Gothic revivalist Chapel.

LCE architects won the commission through a limited design competition. The form of the building is very much dictated by its setting and results in a contemporary form and look. It is the very antithesis of the existing Victorian buildings which were designed to be prominent. However, it is entirely appropriate in this context, as it minimises the visual impact of the new development on the surrounding countryside and maintains the college’s principal buildings as the dominant visual feature in the landscape.

The building is partially sunk into the ground with the entrance at grade between two existing knapped flint buildings, with only a new sensitive contemporary glass entrance screen visible from this side of the building. The new building sits behind this entrance and comprises two adjacent wings running north/south separated by a corridor which fits well with the geometry and grain of the campus, as each wing is a similar depth to the wings of the quadrangles.

The building is energy efficient due in part to the earth sheltering and orientation, with a glass wall to the south and the use of termodeck for the heating and cooling strategy.

**Awards**
Sussex Heritage Trust Public and Community Award (2009)

**Client**
Lancing College

**Architect**
LCE

**Structural Engineer**
AKS Ward

**M & E Engineer**
Gibbs Dench Associates

**Cost Consultant**
Huntley Cartwright

**Main Contractor**
Westridge

**Floor Area**
1,000 m²

**Value**
£1.8 million | $2.8 million

**Status**
Built