

**ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**  
Sustainable School, Great Notley

**Date**  
1997 - 1999

**Architect**  
Alford Hall Monaghan Morris

**Project Value**  
£ 1.2m

**Project Status**  
Completed September 1999

**Awards**  
Innovation of the Year, Building Services Awards, 2000  
Outstanding Scheme in Region, Civic Trust Awards, 2001

A competition winning scheme for a prototype low energy sustainable school for Essex.

The project has been revisited throughout by the Design Council and includes innovative planning, organization, and material use. The building relies upon very simple systems, but has been designed to use very little energy, mainly by virtue of its construction.

All major internal spaces are daylit and naturally ventilated.



The grass roof provides thermal mass and insulation for the school, while the clerestory windows provide daylight and ventilation (above)



The main hall was designed to optimise daylight (above); recycled materials are used extensively throughout the school (below)



External panels use a timber breathing wall construction. Glazing is optimised for daylight (below)



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