

ATTICZONE

Case Studies: Installation of LoftZone in schools

Use of safe access system above loft insulation in educational establishments

1. Oasis Academy Connaught, Bristol

Bray & Slaughter, a leading regional building contractor, has installed the LoftZone insulation protection and safe access system in the Oasis Academy Connaught in Bristol. The work, done as part of a refurbishment of the academy, was specified by Aedas Building Consultancy, and was the first time that this system has been applied in an educational building. The deck was 72m long x 1.2m wide.



LoftZone has developed a raised decking system for lofts above the full depth of insulation, whilst also allowing safe access to staff needing to attend to M&E equipment in the loft space. Research by the National Physical Laboratory and Carbon Trust has shown that loft insulation is often compressed to joist height to allow for safe access walkways, and that this reduces its effectiveness by 50-60%. The LoftZone raised decking system is the only such product on the market with BBA approval and won Best New Invention at the Ideal Home Show in London.

John Ramsay, managing surveyor at Bray & Slaughter was pleased that the LoftZone safe access system had come onto the market. He said: "It is a building regulation requirement to install adequate insulation into loft spaces, however we also need to provide safe access walkways for maintenance purposes. The LoftZone system is much faster to install than extra timber joists, and still allows the full 270mm of insulation".

Stuart Wager at Aedas Building Consultancy, said: "Our objective was to provide safe access in a large roof void that was simple to install, cost effective and would not compromise the high level of thermal insulation we installed. The LoftZone product met this objective and we are very pleased with the results".

