



 above  
left

# Trinity Anglican College

## CASE STUDY

**Profile Carpets:** Carpets Inter EcoSoft® carpet tiles

**Architect:** Clarke Keller

**Installer:** TRU Services Group

**Project specs**

Total 3145m<sup>2</sup> of EcoSoft® carpet tiles laid

50 x 50cm tile size

100% solution dyed nylon carpet

3-5mm carpet pile height



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To learn more about Above Left's sustainable and innovative flooring solutions, visit: [www.aboveleft.com.au](http://www.aboveleft.com.au)



Carpets Inter EcoSoft® is responsible for recycling over 500 million PET bottles, reducing the effects of pollution on our planet.

## Background

Sitting amidst a semi-rural, 10-hectare site straddling the NSW and Victorian border, Trinity Anglican College is a co-educational, independent K-12 school. Founded in 2002, the College is part of an educational hub comprising other schools, a Charles Sturt University campus, and the TAFE National Environment Centre. In response to a growing student population, the College engaged Canberra-based architects Clarke Keller to design a new \$7.2 million senior school campus and \$1.8 million infants' centre.

## Challenges

A key challenge faced by the project was its scale. "The school has grown very quickly," explained Ella Masters of Clarke Keller. "And to do a building of this size and suddenly introduce 20 new teaching spaces... making it coherent and cohesive with the rest of the school was challenging." Prior to moving into the new, 20-room senior school and 6-room infants' centre, the College conducted some of its classes in demountables and tight teaching spaces.

The project also reflects a shift within the education sector toward open plan, flexible spaces that adapt to different activities and teaching styles. Clarke Keller sought to incorporate this shift in open plan, "future-focused learning spaces" for the college, which in turn posed a unique acoustic challenge in terms of reverberation and noise carry.

Clarke Keller was also mindful of the comfort of student end-users and of the desire for the client to facilitate sustainability wherever possible.

## Solution

Above Left worked closely with the school and Clarke Keller to ascertain the best flooring solutions for the project's unique requirements. "They wanted something playful that they could mix and match and a contemporary design that they could deploy throughout the school," said Shayne Phillips, a consultant at Above Left, "They also needed to consider comfort, because children do spend a lot of time on the floor reading books. Hard-backed carpet tiles can be hard to sit on for long periods."

Above Left 'Sanskrit' carpet tiles were specified in three earthy, graduated colours and backed by EcoSoft®, a high performance and environmentally friendly acoustic backing fabricated from recycled PET bottles. Soft underfoot and offering twice the sound absorption of traditional hardback carpet tiles, EcoSoft® is central to the College's future-proof, sustainable design. "From an acoustic perspective the product meets the client's requirement. EcoSoft® outperforms many other carpet tiles currently on the market," said Shayne.

In total, 2585m<sup>2</sup> of tiles were laid in the senior school and 560m<sup>2</sup> in the infant centre, with Above Left's in-house design team plotting the project on CAD to determine the exact amount of carpet tiles required and figure out challenging individual placements. Ella Masters explained, "They provided another layer of quality review to make sure that everything we were doing was accurate." The resulting project reflects the new direction of tomorrow's schools, and was a resounding success.



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