



**EDUCATION**  
Environments



Since 1986, Accent Environments has been passionate about designing and furnishing educational environments that accommodate all learners while fostering engagement and productivity within the school. We have helped to complete projects ranging from entire schools to a single classroom, by caring deeply about our clients, products, and the wider community.

## OUR METHODOLOGY



### EVALUATION

Understanding the scope of the project and your vision, needs and desires.



### DESIGN

Exploring the possibilities within the space.



### COSTS

Presenting the quote with detailed drawings and renderings if required.



### DELIVERY AND/OR INSTALL

Delivery of the products within your space and installation if required.



### COMPLETION

We stand behind our quality products and do not consider a project complete until you are 100% satisfied.



### ONGOING SUPPORT

We will be there to support you in any way even after the project is complete.

DESIGNING  
EDUCATIONAL SPACES  
THAT ACCOMMODATE  
ALL LEARNERS WHILE  
FOSTERING ENGAGEMENT  
AND PRODUCTIVITY.





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# RECEPTION

Make first impressions count with a welcoming reception space! The reception area is often the first point of contact for students, visitors, parents, and potential staff. This space should reflect your school's brand and values. So, ensure you leave a lasting positive impression on your guests, by displaying these important intangibles with stunning design.





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## ADMIN OFFICES

The administrative offices are often used as a hub for coordinating various administrative tasks and overseeing the school's day-to-day operations. Here a mix of open-plan and semi-collaborative spaces is important. This provides the staff with opportunities to easily communicate with each other while keeping a sense of personal space. Because a lot of the behind-the-scenes work happens here, ensure it is a welcoming environment for the staff.







The principal is an indispensable part of the school's operations and often requires a private office. Having a more secluded space gives them privacy to hold confidential meetings. However, some may prefer to be out in the open; if this is the case, ensure that there are private spots nearby where confidential chats can take place.





## EARLY YEARS

Daycares play an essential role in supporting working parents by providing a safe and nurturing environment for children. Although daycares are focused less on learning by lessons and more on learning by playing, they still offer opportunities for mental and social development in a group setting. Daycares must be a place children want to come, and where parents feel comfortable sending their child(ren)!







Preschool is a fun time of learning and discovery for young children. Like daycare, it allows children to engage in play and creativity, but it places greater emphasis on early education. Preschool is critical in a child's early development and builds the groundwork for future academic achievement. Children improve social, emotional, problem-solving, and communication skills.







By including arts and crafts, sensory play, music and dance, storytelling, outdoor play, and other activities in early-years design, you will increase the children's development. Play and hands-on interactions are highly effective ways for preschoolers to learn!





# ELEMENTARY

Elementary school typically involves formal education for students aged six to twelve. The goal is to establish a strong foundation in fundamental subjects. It is critical that the furniture is appropriate for the students' needs and size. Shorter tables and seating, child-sized soft seating, and carpets help children feel like the space is for them. Creating an environment that is fun and comfortable ensures children keep their eagerness to learn.







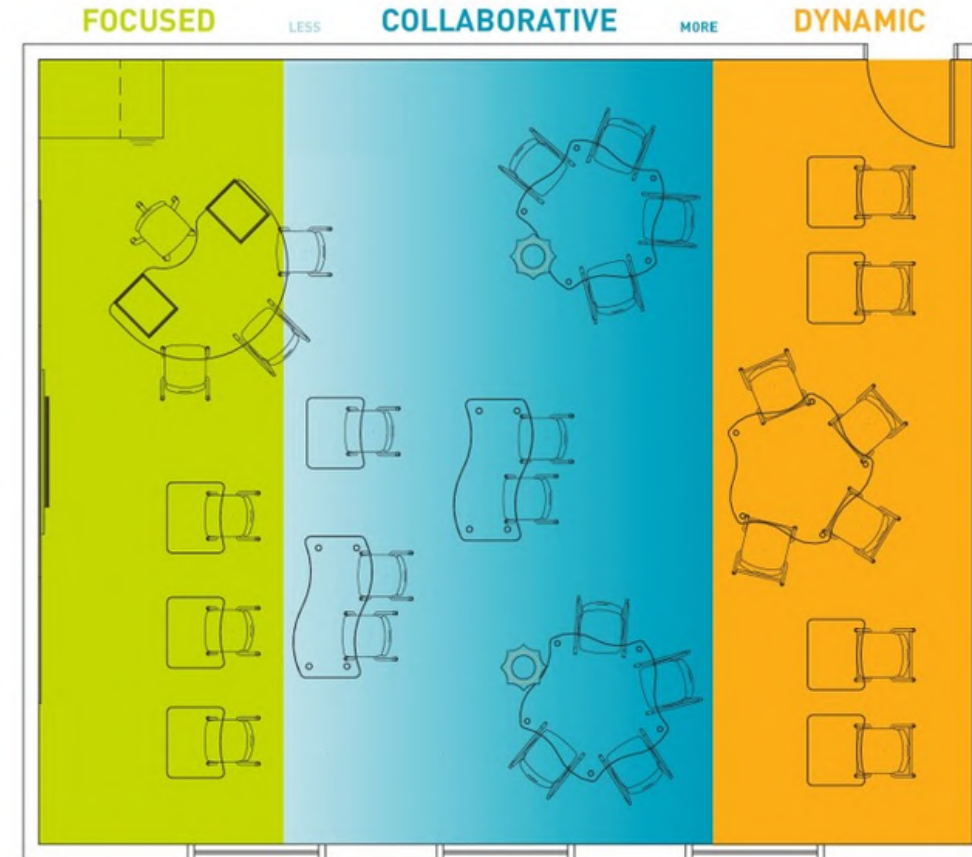
Incorporate group areas, designated quiet spaces, and a mix of sitting, and standing options to accommodate all personalities and learners. At this crucial stage of development, students are trying to find their Just Right Zone (best way to learn).





# ACCENTUATED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS (ALE)

An Accentuated Learning Environment is an inclusive learning environment that balances the needs of each student's personal learning style, recognizes individual communication styles, and supports flexible teaching styles for the educator. Every individual within a classroom is unique in their own way. Every student is different and Accentuated Learning Environments ensure each difference is fostered.





In an ALE classroom, students are given the freedom to select their environment. Whether they sit together with classmates at a table, or alone at a desk, each student's need is taken care of. The classroom structure encourages teachers who prefer to roam throughout the class to do so. The Accentuated Learning Environment avoids old-school factory-style learning.







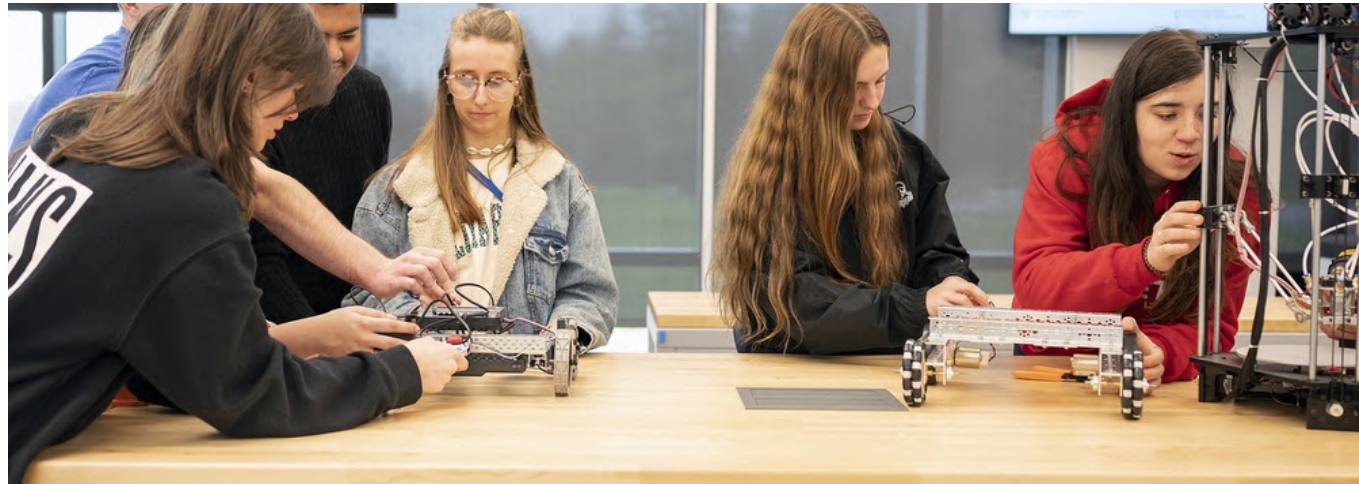






# MAKERSPACE / STEM / STEAM

Makerspaces or STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Mathematics) is a form of learning that allows students to apply their training through active and practical demonstrations. Hands-on learning promotes critical thinking. Makerspaces and STEAM spaces include the use of technology, robotics, 3D Printers, Lego, or K'nex.







Embracing STEAM in education is important in today's world. This approach helps to empower students to seek creative solutions to the problems in our world and assists them in developing skills that are essential for current and future occupations. STEAM teaches critical thinking and innovation, a necessary skill for students to be life ready when they finish their formal education/









# MEDIA CENTER

Technology is infused into almost all settings in today's educational environments. However, a media centre is a designated spot within the school that serves as a hub for research and technology-focused studies. Not only do media centres allow for independent research, but they also frequently incorporate mobile furniture so students can easily collaborate and work together on projects, discussions, or group activities.





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# ART ROOM

Art rooms play a significant role in education by providing a dedicated space for artistic exploration, creative expression, and skill development. Art rooms provide a space where students can engage in hands-on learning that nurtures their creativity and critical thinking skills. These rooms encourage students to think outside the box, explore new ideas, and imagine new possibilities





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# TRADITIONAL TEACHINGS

The First Peoples use the circle or Medicine Wheel symbol as a way to remember and teach the lessons on many aspects of life. The Medicine Wheel is a circle divided into four colored sections, each of which represents an aspect of human life and the world around us or the seven common teachings. It ties together important teachings of balance, harmony and respect for one's self and respect for the community. The Medicine Wheel furnishings can be used as valuable teaching and conversational tools in your school.





# LEARNING COMMONS / LIBRARY

The learning commons, more commonly known as the library, is the hub and the heart of the school. It provides a place for teachers and students to collaborate and build inquiry learning and critical thinking skills. It is a common area that is 'owned' by both students and teachers. The learning commons are designed to accommodate multiple types of research and activities, and because of that it is necessary that the space be furnished with an agile and adaptable fit-out.







The learning commons promotes student-centered learning and provides a vibrant and welcoming environment in which students can gather and collaborate in groups. This area is generally known as the core of the school.





# AGILE SPACES

As technology develops it is becoming clear that classrooms must be agile. Flexible furniture is required in today's schools to support varied teaching and learning methods. With flexible furniture, teachers and students can effortlessly shift the design of the classroom to work with all activities and all learners. One lesson may demand a teacher lecture, while others may require individual or group work - with flexible spaces, furniture can be moved quickly and easily to suit the lesson.







Agile spaces can have zones dedicated to various learning activities. Some zones may include reading corners, research areas, presenting areas, and/or performance stages. These zones allow students to participate in a variety of learning activities based on their interests and requirements.









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## LOUNGE SPACES

Lounge spaces are often incorporated in an area within the classroom, but some facilities have a designated spot for students to unwind, socialize and engage in group work or informal activities. Lounge spaces typically have comfortable seating such as sofas, bean bags, or lounge chairs. This inviting atmosphere helps students to relax and feel at ease.









# LUNCHROOM / CAFETERIA

Students congregate in the cafeteria/lunchroom area to eat, socialize, and recharge! By providing comfortable and well-designed spaces, schools can create an enjoyable dining experience that improves student well-being and overall school culture. Informal learning, idea exchanges, and impromptu discussions happen naturally and easily within these spaces.





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## SMALL MEETING SPACES

Small meeting spaces are dedicated areas within the school for students, teachers, and staff to conduct small group discussions, meetings, or quiet spaces for individuals to work alone. These areas provide privacy and focus. A school with multiple small meeting rooms enables multiple small group events to take place at the same time.





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## SPECIAL & SENSORY NEEDS

The requirements of students with disabilities, sensory sensitivities, or other special needs are referred to as specialty and sensory needs. It is critical that assistive equipment be supplied to ensure that all students are properly cared for. By recognizing and addressing the needs of students, schools can ensure that all learners have equal access to quality education and opportunities for success.







Consider sensory rooms and physically and digitally accessible locations like wheelchair-accessible facilities and visual assistance. Teachers can also include sensory and specialized demands in the classroom with the use of rocking chairs, fidgets, noise-canceling headphones and more.





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# HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher education spaces must be appealing to attract students. However, they must also be set up to allow careers to be explored, and creative thinking and collaboration to take place. In comparison to K-12 facilities, higher education design tends to have a more corporate feel, with an increase in specialized lecture rooms for more specific studies.







Secondary venues produce a lot of research and ground-breaking ideas. Therefore, spaces must be designed in such a way that ignites creativity. Consider a range of areas to accommodate all types of personalities.





## SHARED SPACES

Campus shared spaces serve as a gathering place for students and professors to mingle and brainstorm in a relaxed atmosphere. Here, you'll find a more home-like setting, which encourages enhanced productivity and innovative thinking. This relaxed setting promotes informal collaboration and spontaneous interactions, allowing students to take a break from campus life without having to leave the facility.





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# DORMITORIES

For many students, the college dormitories will be temporarily their semi-permanent residence. With the insecurity of being a young adult, perhaps away from home for the first time alone, dormitories are a haven on campus. Ensuring the design is homey and provides enough personalization opportunities can assist in making students feel comfortable. Common spaces that encourage social interaction are also important in helping students feel welcome!





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## NETWORKING SPACES

Networking spaces within higher education facilities may be small or large. However, no matter the size, they provide a place for students to come together and share ideas with their classmates, faculty members, or professors. In these venues, ideas are exchanged, challenges are met, and teams develop. These areas can also be used for various activities such as symposiums, workshops, conferences, and clubs.





## EVENT SPACES

Event spaces are intended to house several activities such as conferences, performances, and other education-related occasions and celebrations. Some auditoriums feature permanent seating, while others consist of moveable chairs that may be adjusted or removed to fit various event layouts. These areas generally include a raised platform or stage area where presenters can be seen and heard by all attendees.





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# LECTURE HALL

Lecture halls or school auditoriums are excellent venues for students to gather for events or assemblies. They provide a place for students to demonstrate their abilities, participate in artistic activities, listen to a lecture or presentation, and create unforgettable memories. These areas are critical in creating an energetic and creative educational atmosphere.





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# TRAINING ROOMS

Training and team development are fundamental to professional development. Training spaces within educational settings provide a space where instruction sessions, workshops, and/or seminars can be held to improve the teaching staff's skills. By separating training spaces from the regular school environment, the staff are given the ability to concentrate on the instruction without the distraction of their day-to-day workload.





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# STAFF ROOMS

With the move into resimercial design within corporate environments, the same qualities can be translated to staff rooms in educational settings. In residential design, the kitchen is a vital feature, and this bleeds over into resimercial design. In staff areas, having a lunchroom or café space can serve as an area where the teaching staff can gather, interact, and engage in informal conversations. A well-designed café space specific for the staff can enhance the school's culture and values.







A lunchroom or café space specific for the staff contributes to building a culture within the school that fosters relationships and increases positive engagement between staff. Informal learning, idea exchanges, and impromptu discussions happen naturally within these spaces.





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# MUSIC ROOMS

A whole demographic of students has music in their genes, meaning they find music can assist in relieving tension and can improve their overall well-being. For these students, music rooms become a very popular space in the school. Music can provoke emotions and can be therapeutic in assisting students to develop their emotional intelligence. Choirs, keyboard ensembles, brass bands, guitar quartets, and more can be practiced in music rooms, giving students a space to express themselves through music.





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# ATHLETICS

Athletics is vital in a school environment. Sports teach a whole other version of teamwork and collaboration. They also allow students to engage in activities that improve their overall fitness and well-being. It is critical to have an approach that prioritizes both academics and athletics to ensure students will acquire both physical activity and academic development.





# ESPORTS

Esports are becoming increasingly popular in education. Although very different from traditional sports, esports places emphasis on collaboration, problem-solving, and strategic thinking. Esports can become a part of your school's identity, and your esports team needs space to prepare for competitions with other schools within the tournaments. This gives another demographic of students the opportunity to connect with others of similar interests, building long-lasting relationships.





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# OUTDOOR LEARNING

Outdoor learning is enjoyable for both students and teachers! Outside the four walls of a classroom, away from the conventional seating patterns, students are more inventive and get a sense of freedom, which is necessary for a child's development. Different environments suit different learning styles. As a result, having an outdoor space could benefit students who struggle in traditional classroom settings. Being outside has been shown to benefit students on a physical, mental, and social level! Hearing nature's noises and breathing in fresh air lifts spirits, enhances focus, and increases participation.







The combination of studying and the outdoors promotes a connection to nature. Students who spend time outside at school develop a greater appreciation for nature and living things, as well as a more enthusiastic attitude toward science and learning. By incorporating the outdoors into their academics, students can be taught to value nature.





# FLOOR LEARNING

Carpets are both comfy and decorative. More importantly, carpets can be used as a teaching tool for people of all ages. Decorate your space with a carpet and utilize it as a meeting and teaching area. Rugs improve the overall aesthetic of the space, with their various colours, patterns, and designs, but they can also be used to define specific learning zones.







Some rugs provide texture and offer sensory input and support sensory-based activities. Rugs absorb sound and lower noise levels, making them an excellent addition to a classroom or common area.





# STORAGE

There is never enough storage at a school! Storage is required for everything whether it be technology, teacher and student supplies, books, sports equipment - the list could go on and on. If items are not stored properly, there will be unnecessary clutter. Items that are not properly stowed create a disruptive learning environment for both staff and students. Consider mobile storage with doors to keep it transportable and stored effectively.





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# LOCKERS

Lockers at school serve an important role in providing students and teachers with personal storage space for their belongings. They provide students with a sense of privacy because they can store important items in their personal locker without worrying about it. Lockers offer students the ability to only take what they need to a particular class and leave everything else behind.





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# ACOUSTICS

Open plans and collaborative spaces are ideal for promoting engagement, but they can also generate an uncomfortable noise level. However, having acoustics can assist with this. Not only do they dampen the background noise, but they also add character to the design. Acoustics are available in wall murals, ceiling tiles, hanging baffles, and more, giving each space its own personality.





# BIOPHILIA

Humans thrive in biophilic environments, which include visible connections to the colours, movement, scents, sounds, and textures of nature. Studies have shown that living walls are known to improve indoor air quality and well-being as well as reduce noise and stress. Living walls can also be utilized as an educational tool, with kids learning about various plant species, the benefits of green places, and the importance of sustainability.







Moss is another type of biophilia that can be used in school environments. Moss provides similar benefits to living walls but requires less upkeep. Both add a natural element to the learning environment and have a favourable impact on the overall attitude and well-being of the students.





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## VISUAL TOOLS

Whiteboards, glass boards, tack boards, and projection screens all contribute to better learning environments. Visual tools aid in attracting students' attention, and teachers can use them to convey concepts and information. Communication tools are extremely useful for many topics, and many activities benefit from them, such as taking notes, solving math equations, or organizing tasks and lesson objectives.





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# AIR PURIFICATION

Due to the number of people passing through educational environments, air contamination is very prevalent, which can affect students' and teachers' ability to learn and teach. Air purifiers reduce the risk of spreading viruses, meaning fewer students and teachers will become sick. Additionally, better air quality boosts productivity and concentration.





Many existing schools were built based on Education 2.0 (Industrial Age) and are not conducive to 21st-century learning outcomes. However, replacing all existing schools is not realistic due to the huge costs involved. However, we have a solution.

### **Accent Environments goes above and beyond providing furniture.**

Accent offers a custom modernization package to provide older schools with modern improvements. The facelift process can be customized to fit your budget. Whether you need a minor upgrade or an entirely renovated facility, we will perform facility improvements and structural repairs to update your building and ensure it becomes functional and attractive.

## **FURTHER THAN FURNITURE.**

### **CONSIDER:**

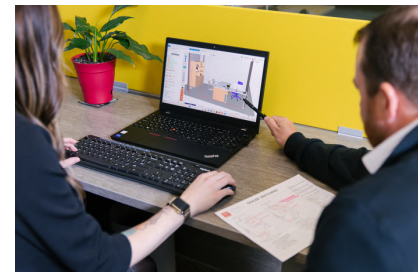
Air Quality  
Natural Lighting  
Acoustics  
Colour Psychology  
Flooring  
Lighting  
Furniture

### **PRE-CONSTRUCTION**

Determining Your Budget  
Understanding Vision & Goals  
Plans, Renderings, Drawings  
Quoting/Design  
Finalizing Choices & Colours

### **PROJECT DELIVERY**

Construction Work  
Furniture  
Delivery  
Installation





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