



# Health, Wellbeing, & Inclusion Award

Sponsored by **OSCAR**  
acoustics

★ **Winner** .....

## AtkinsRéalis - Lisburne SEND Primary School

.....

This project demonstrates how acoustic design can function as a core component of inclusive education rather than a late stage compliance exercise. The scheme delivers a purpose built learning environment for pupils with complex needs, where careful control of noise, distraction and acoustic variability directly supports comfort, communication and learning outcomes.

The acoustics team was engaged early – from RIBA Stage 2 through to Stage 5 – allowing performance requirements to influence spatial planning, zoning and room adjacencies before layouts were fixed. This early involvement ensured that acoustic criteria were embedded into the design, reducing reliance on reactive mitigation and ensuring that solutions were robust, coordinated and buildable.

A key focus was the treatment of more challenging teaching environments, including the open plan early years area. Through targeted acoustic modelling and carefully considered interventions, the design improved speech intelligibility and reduced cross group interference. During delivery, acoustic testing and on site adjustments were used to fine tune room performance and mechanical

noise, ensuring that design intentions were achieved in practice.

The completed school demonstrates how thoughtful acoustic design can directly contribute to creating inclusive, supportive learning environments. Client testimonials highlighted the positive impact of the completed school. SMBC’s Head of Capital, Design and Technical Services described Lisburne as a “flagship school” reflecting the borough’s commitment to improving SEND provision, expressing confidence that it will be “an inspiring place to learn for many years to come.” The Headteacher also noted that the adaptable learning spaces have significantly enhanced student engagement and participation, with flexible design supporting a more inclusive and interactive environment.

Judges praised the project as a well executed example of applying established acoustic guidance within a specialist educational setting. They highlighted the strength of early engagement, collaboration and the successful translation of inclusive design principles into a practical, high performing school environment.

## Acoustic Awards 2026

.....



These awards demonstrate the unique skills of UK based acoustic consultants in addressing challenges, championing innovation and originality and showcasing the significance of a profession which blends art and science to transformational effect.