

Norbury Ward, South Staffs NHS Foundation Trust



Interior designers working on healthcare projects - not just hospitals, but care homes and mental health units - now consider furniture to be an essential element within an overall scheme.

Making the right choices when it comes to seating and tables has become as vital to the establishment of an ambience as the correct specification of lighting, flooring, draperies and art. A pioneer in this field is Georgia Burt, Senior Designer with architects Nightingale Associates, who has forged a close relationship with Yorkshire-based Knightsbridge Furniture to develop contract furniture which meets the needs of specific healthcare projects and environments. Working together, Architectural Designer and Furniture Manufacturer are ensuring a careful balance of colour, fabric, structure, style and function to meet individual matrices of needs and expectations.

This is particularly the case when it comes to patients presenting challenging behaviour patterns. For the Norbury Ward 'Healing Environment' project for example, a King's Fund initiative for South Staffordshire

Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, bespoke seating was made by the Knightsbridge team.

The scheme uses settees, club chairs, armchairs and footstools from Knightsbridge Furniture's Shelley, Vienna, and Bugatti ranges to create a relaxing and comfortable environment, along with Polka and Balerno dining tables & chairs from Knightsbridge's Extreme Furniture Collection. These ranges are designed for extremely tough contract situations and are tested to the highest British Standards for strength and stability, to safeguard patients and staff alike.

Knightsbridge's role as both a designer and manufacturer is key, allowing us to work closely with the designer and client and adapt products to suit the specific, demanding requirements of mental health environments.