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Urban & Self Developments

Building The Interiors

Making of Sustainable Environments

Blueprint for Holistic Education

The innovative approach to design for the Amity International School in Mohali, Punjab, by **Vijay Gupta Architects (VGA)** attempts to go beyond the rigid morphology of educational spaces and planning.

Drawing inferences from efficient models of tackling urban density, the complex seeks to embody a progressive spirit through an elevated level of spatial vibrancy by rethinking the design of conventional school complexes. The site posed several challenges in terms of size, orientation and surroundings, which were ingeniously navigated, while developing a distinctive design scheme.

To balance spatial requirements with site constraints, the building mass has been lifted to the podium level, spilling over into a large colonnaded platform connecting the cafeteria and doubling up as a play area. Similarly, by providing activity areas at each level of the five-story structure, the school complex enables spaces for engagement and exploration at several junctures.



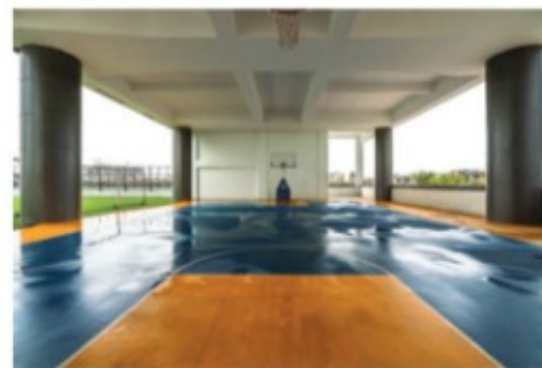
Efficient planning through cross-domain learnings was instrumental in developing a comprehensive design scheme that lays the blueprint for a holistic education – one where physical activity, social interaction, and creative exploration are just as crucial as curricular education.

Ar. Alpina Gupta

Playgrounds, shaded walkways, play areas, and open and semi-open spaces forge engaging and exploratory spaces at several junctures. A playful mix of punctures and louvers lightens the visual load of the imposing structure. The façade elements are planned to allow natural light throughout the interiors.

A curtain wall wraps around the built form on the southern side. Made of laser-cut aluminium panels, it protects the building from the harsh southern sun and with its fluid envelope of blue and yellow asserts a distinct visual identity to the complex. The building follows an organic form through well-crafted concrete details, with a bare ceiling, exposing the structural system.

The interior spaces are shaped in a tactile language, with minimal but vibrant colours. Wooden porous partitions, organically designed, enable visual connectivity within spaces. The north and south facades allow the building to be climate-responsive while establishing a distinct visual identity. **M35**





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