



HAND
INTELLIGENCE

NEW K-12 INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR WORLD SCHOOLS PRIVATE LIMITED
bangalore india 2006

[geometree + mathew ghosh architects]

While education is structured through a variety of instruments such as curriculum, educational philosophies and corresponding formal/spatial organizations, learning also occurs in the gaps between these structural systems. A basic interest of this proposal was to seek the potential of in-between spaces as extensions of learning spaces. This approach renders the site as a field of continuous activities rather than setting the building and open space apart from each other, as is common. In addition to providing for the programmed spaces, the design aims to generate new and surprising activities on the site that can enhance both learning and play.

A series of elementary and kindergarten class rooms form continuous bars of space defining and relating to the outdoors. The roofs of this most grounded set of spaces form another elevated ground plane - a continuous roof garden. The upper level academic spaces hover over this "constructed" landscape without physically touching it, thereby creating spaces in the overlap. The roof gardens conceived with concern for the environment, is hoped will become part of the curricular and social activities of the students.

A consistent concern of the design was to organize the modules of spaces necessary to the project without surrendering to an overbearing order. Walls and roofs document and reveal this intention. Two variations of "screen" walls, both articulated in different sized granite, protect from southern and western Sun, help achieve porosity while creating a surface play. Whereas the surface play of the screen wall derives through selective alignments with the regulated order of the class rooms, the roof plane of the lower level class rooms become an open field on which random punctuations bring in light through the garden on the class room floor. Evoking a sense of shadow play under a tree, these dancing spots of light map in an intimate scale the "pools of light" framed and created by the overlapping volumes on the site.

All inhabitable spaces are inherently suited for natural ventilation and natural lighting. In case of the need for air-conditioning, solar panels lining the parapet walls of the lower spaces are anticipated to help provide for part of the energy needs.





FIRST FLOOR PLAN



- 1 ENTRY LOBBY
- 2 ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS
- 3 ADMINISTRATION/OFFICES
- 4 DINING/THEATRE LOBBY
- 5 AUDITORIUM
- 6 KITCHEN
- 7 WORKSHOP/GREEN ROOM
- 8 BOYS
- 9 GIRLS
- 10 GYMNASIUM
- 11 LOCKERS/CHANGING ROOMS
- 12 POOL
- 13 OUTDOOR COURTS
- 14 INFORMAL ARTS AREA
- 15 BUS PICK-UP/DROP-OFF

