



the future is safer with altro



Designing for education

Choosing flooring fit for purpose



Altro Quartz Tile excels in this elementary school installation



Altro Quartz Tile
Ocean CD

Altro Quartz Tile
Sand CD

Flooring and wall cladding for education

Painting sunflowers, exploding a home-made volcano, the starring role in Hamlet; the dramas of growing up all take their toll on your floors and walls. But don't worry. We've thought of that. From nursery to university – we have the needs of crawling toddlers to towering graduates covered.

It's why we combine safety and hygiene with durability and resilience. As the needs of your learners evolve with time, yours will too. Our flooring and wall cladding provide flexible and robust solutions for changing functional requirements. And they're sustainable too, enabling you to create colorful, inspirational environments, stimulating young minds and contributing to an enjoyable learning center.

Designing for education

Schools have many different areas, all with diverse needs. From classrooms and corridors to faculty lounges and science labs, each area demands its own unique requirements but the need for lasting value is always there.

Altro is a perfect fit for these areas because our products offer:

- Long-term durability
- Reduced maintenance
- Impressive value
- Safety and hygiene
- On trend color palettes



How interior finishes can impact learning

Color and design

Ask a teacher what influences learning and you'll hear teaching methods, how students learn differently, outside influences and the school's curriculum. Chances are they won't mention classroom finishes, such as the color of the flooring.

Inherent in everything we do and see, color influences every day life through our productivity, communication and emotion.

Emotions brought about by color can influence a student's work or study habits. Studies show a direct link between color and feelings, certain colors promoting positive and others negative. The right color helps denote a room's purpose - relaxation, studying, collaboration, test-taking and more.

When it comes to flooring color selection, there is no silver bullet. Looking at the effects of color and translating that into the learning space's purpose can serve as a guide on what colors fit where.

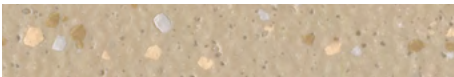
- Promote learning, while not overpowering students with neutrals, by using greens and blues as the base of classrooms and libraries.
- Add splashes of bright color to areas that demand attention (chalkboard, smart board) or should stand out (doorways, restrooms, stairwells).
- Incorporate bold colors within a neutral interior design by using it as accents and way-finding.
- Common areas should be more vibrant than classrooms and libraries. Additional color welcomes conversation and excitement.
- Welcome visitors by showing school spirit - incorporate school colors and/or logos in front entry.
- Young children thrive in environments designed with bright colors, so keep students' ages in mind. More color can be used with this demographic than older students - without worry of over-stimulation.



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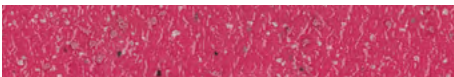
Neutrals – Clean, pure, restful, and noninvasive.



Earth tones – Stability, approachable, warm, and soothing.



Red – Bold, releases adrenaline, elevates blood pressure and heart rate.



Pink – Soothing, affectionate, and happiness. Can stimulate energy.



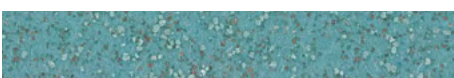
Orange – Energy, warmth, and joy.



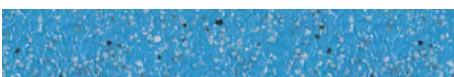
Yellow – Alertness and optimism. Can cause eye fatigue in large areas.



Green – Balance, restful, healing, and nature.



Turquoise – Refreshing, relaxing, and invigorating.



Blue – Calming, lowers blood pressure and heart rate.



Purple – Promotes creativity, spirituality, and perception.

Modern education ideals



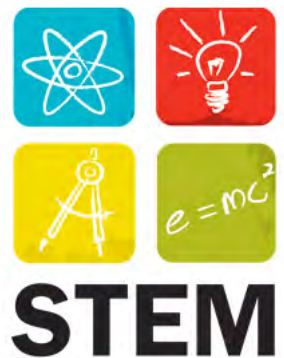
STEM's influence on classroom design

The best architects and designers of K-12 STEM (or STEAM) spaces today understand what real-life STEM programs entail. STEM classrooms must be adaptable, flexible, mobile and ergonomic. The same room can be a teaching lab, a team based learning classroom, a computer lab, a lecture classroom and/or a student project workroom.

STEM classrooms are used for a changing learning curriculum, the spaces have to be adaptable, durable, easy to maintain and support many activities.

STEM's impact on flooring and wall cladding

- Durability to withstand moving furniture/caster wheels
- Resistance to chemicals and staining
- Low maintenance, easy to maintain products
- Impact resistant walls



science • technology
engineering • math

“Prepare yourself for noisy, exuberant classrooms where multiple right answers abound and failure is regarded as a positive step toward discovery and successful solutions.”

Anne Jolly, STEM by Design

Children are the **most** at risk



Indoor air quality

The importance of good indoor air quality cannot be stressed enough. We spend as much as 85-90% of our days indoors, where the concentration of VOCs and other pollutants is many times worse than outdoors.

This is more important for children because they have higher metabolisms than adults and are more susceptible to the effects of indoor pollutants. These also can interfere with learning and have a greater, long lasting effect on kids.

Important considerations

- Use only low VOC flooring and wall cladding
- Look for flooring with FloorScore or CA 01350 certification
- Avoid products that require heavy polish and wax
- Use solvent-free, low VOC adhesives
- Clean and maintain flooring with low VOC cleaners

This is why it is important that only low VOC emitting flooring, wall cladding, and adhesives be used. Products that comply with FloorScore or the CA 01350 standard for low VOC emitting materials are recommended.

Maintenance should be considered as well. Products that require routine toxic sealers and polishes will off-gas after each time they are maintained.

“ [Children] are spending as much as **three years** during the most developmental parts of their lives in schools, exposed to **chemicals**. ”



AQT doesn't require constant stripping and waxing like VCT, resulting in thousands of dollars saved in maintenance costs.

AQT: A better alternative

Vinyl Composition Tile (VCT) attempts to lure you in with low installation cost, but don't take the bait. Constant maintenance over VCT's useful life can cause your total costs in under five years to be more than an Altro product's in 10.

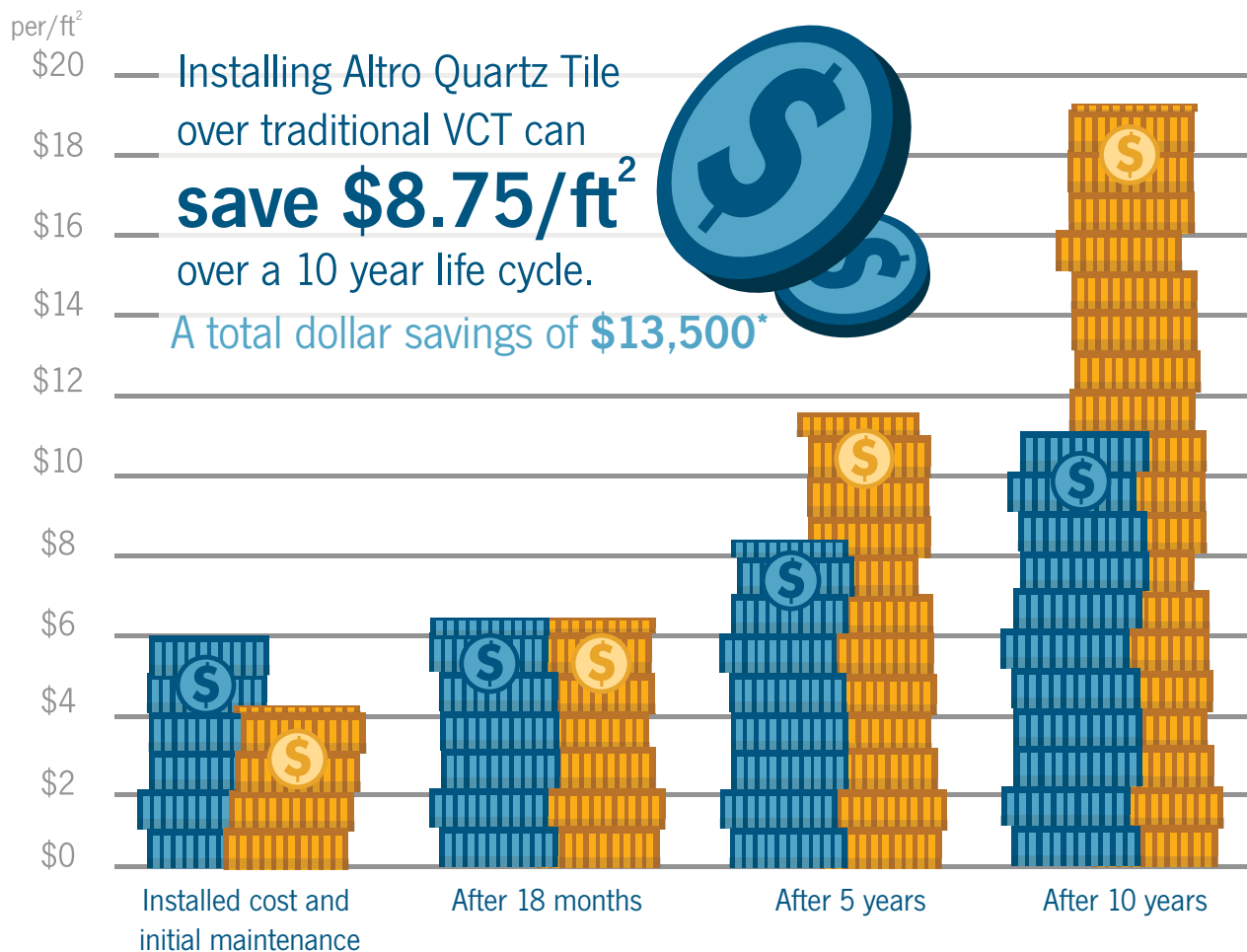
When choosing flooring, cost to buy and initial installation are important. However, if you don't add maintenance costs over time to the equation, you'll end up spending much more throughout the product's life.

That is why VCT is cheap to buy, yet expensive to own.

Hassle free benefits of AQT (Altro Quartz Tile)

- 7 times more durable than VCT
- Low maintenance
- No finish required
- Occupancy ready
- Faster installation than VCT
- 15 year warranty

AQT vs. VCT



*Installed pricing and annual maintenance pricing based on the national average for 1500 ft² and moderate foot traffic. Maintenance costs will vary by foot traffic service provider and region.



Altro Quartz Tile

Designing for different environments



K-12

When designing the perfect space in K-12, you must create an environment that will inspire students to learn and keep them safe and comfortable, all within shrinking budget demands. It's a challenging job.

Physical environments have a strong influence on learning and behavior, and flooring makes an indispensable contribution to the quality of any space.

Few buildings get such tough treatment as those used in public education. Flooring must be attractive as well as practical, hard-wearing and cost-effective.

Altro floor coverings meet all these criteria – and several more. From preschool to high school, our solutions help to create better learning and working environments. They're attractive, safe and environmentally compatible, and they last for generations.





Colleges and universities

The world of higher education is changing. Undergraduate enrollment is continuing to grow and tuitions are increasing. Higher education has become a business and students are its customers.

With intense competition for the best professors and students, colleges and universities have found that facility design can be a major factor in recruiting the best and brightest minds. This has caused a shift away from traditional materials and design to a more modern, sophisticated look.

With a multitude of different area types, colleges and universities require a variety of flooring products to suit the diverse needs of their facility. They require attractive, durable, low maintenance flooring solutions for common areas, classrooms and student housing yet need robust slip resistance in wet environments, kitchens and heavy industrial areas. This is where Altro can deliver more than the competition. Our large portfolio of flooring products covers all of these areas and more.

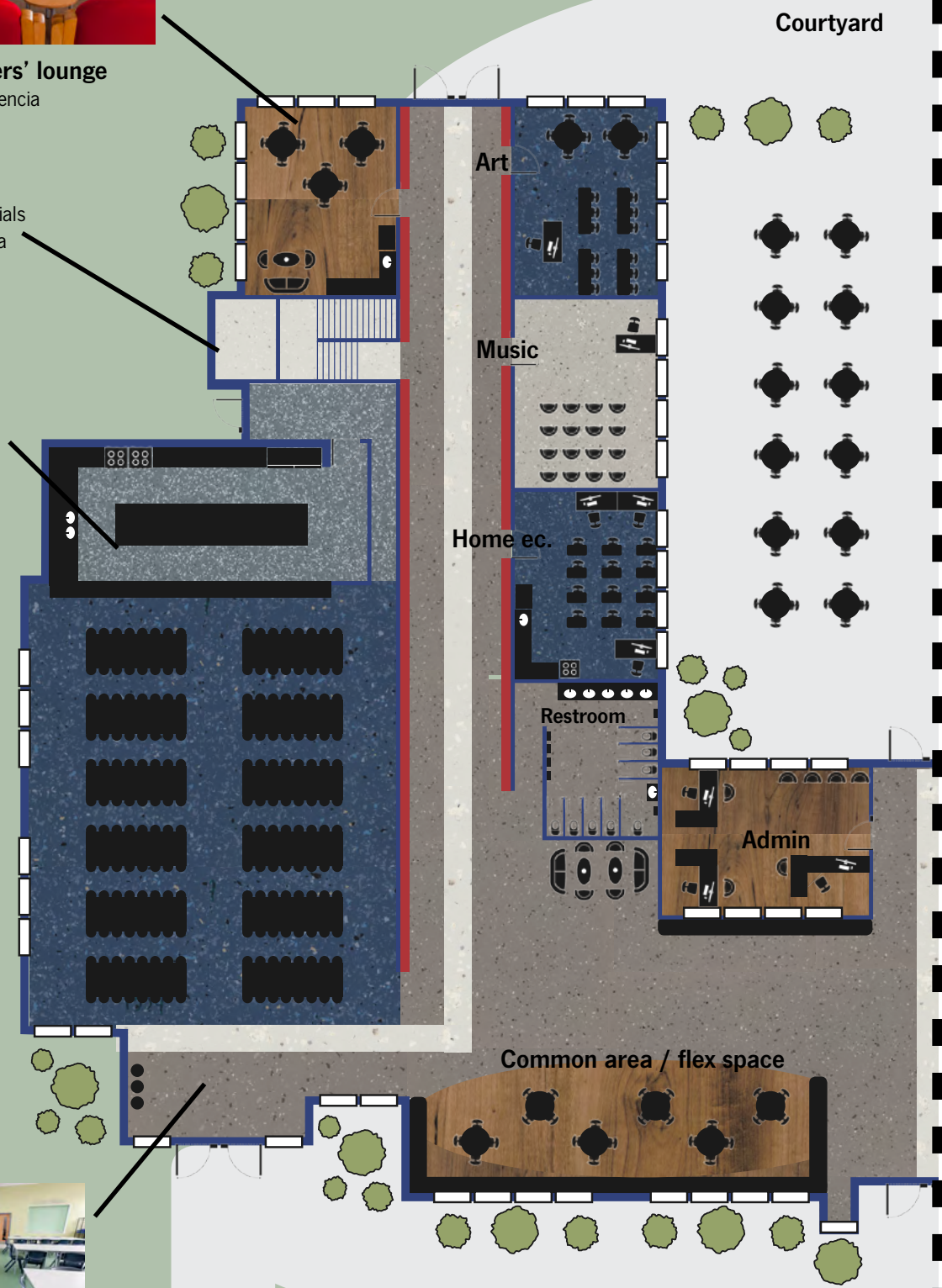


Teachers' lounge
Altro Lavencia

To other classrooms
Altro Dolce, Altro Dolce Essentials
Altro Quartz Tile, Altro Lavencia



Kitchen
Altro Stronghold 30
Altro Whiterock



Cafeteria
Altro Dolce, Altro Dolce Essentials,
Altro Quartz Tile, Altro Lavencia

Area overview

To ensure your flooring is fit for purpose, we recommend different flooring ranges to meet the diverse needs found within schools, colleges and universities.

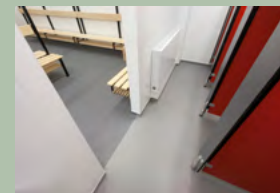


Library
Altro Lavencia

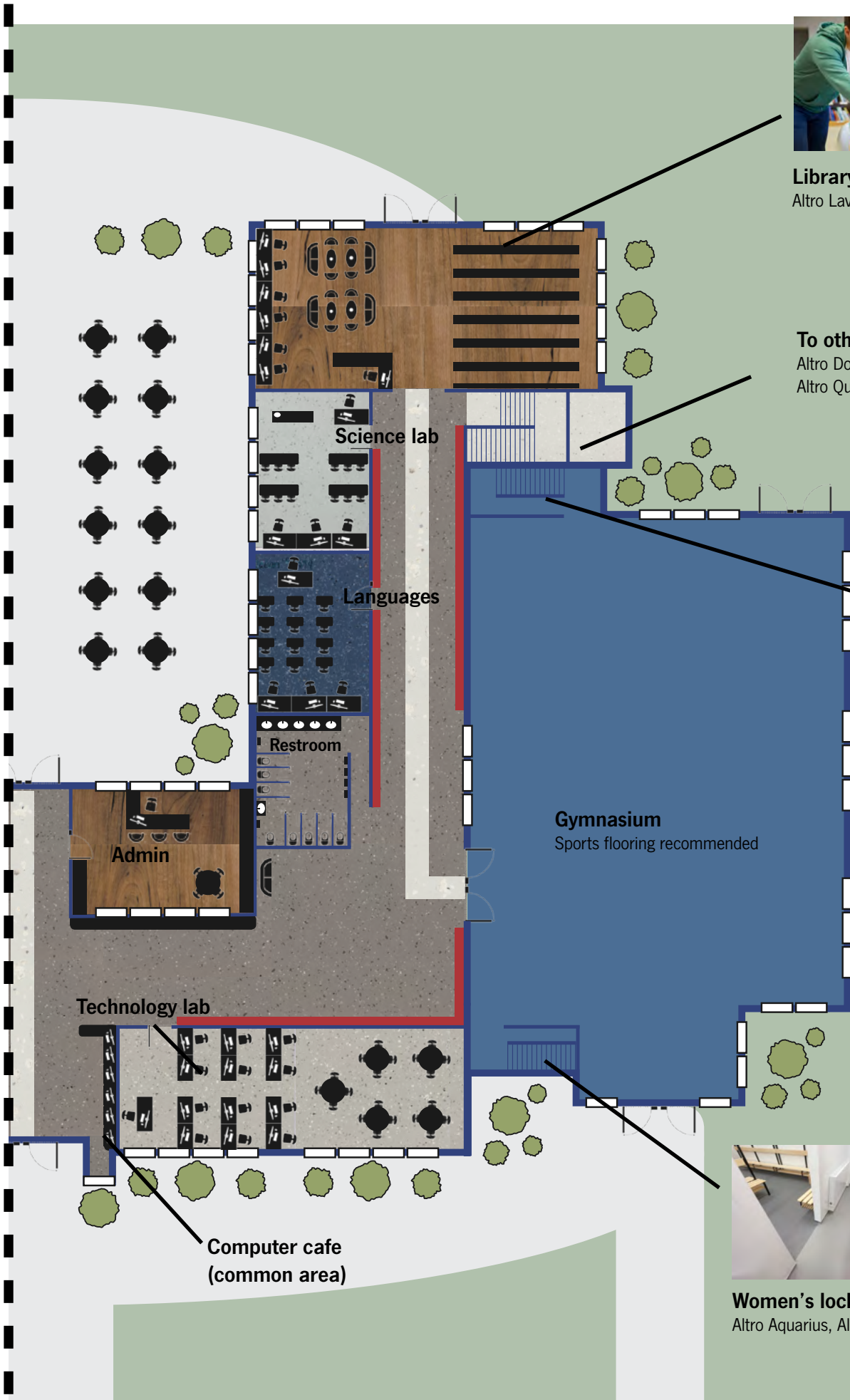
To other classrooms
Altro Dolce, Altro Dolce Essentials
Altro Quartz Tile, Altro Lavencia



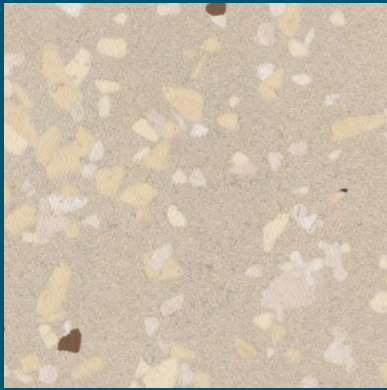
Men's locker room
Altro Aquarius,
Altro Whiterock



Women's locker room
Altro Aquarius, Altro Whiterock



Top flooring choices for education



Altro Quartz Tile™ 35 colors



Altro Dolce™ Tile 30 colors



Altro Dolce™ Essentials 42 colors



Altro Lavencia™ LVT
glue down and adhesive free options

58 colors



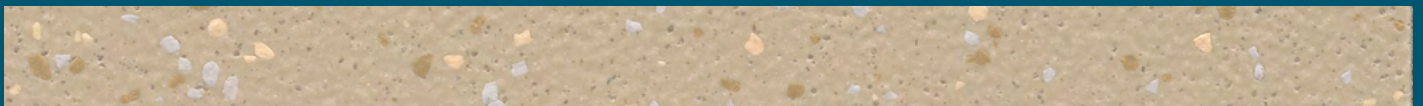
Smooth sheet flooring

General use



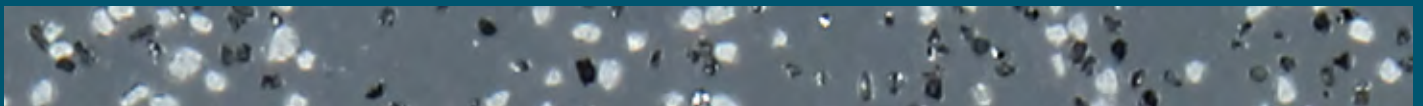
Wood look smooth and slip resistant sheet flooring

General use



Modern slip resistant sheet flooring

General use



Heavy duty safety flooring

Kitchens, industrial areas



Safety flooring for wet areas

Showers, pool surrounds



K-12



College

Classrooms

Studies have shown that the design of a classroom can impact a child's academic progress by as much as 25% during a school year as well as boost morale, enhance safety and foster student collaboration.

With so much at stake, it's important that the right products and colors are used in these spaces. Use products that foster learning while offering the durability required to withstand the frequent reconfiguration that occurs in today's flexible STEM learning classrooms.

Top product choices

- Altro Quartz Tile
- Altro Dolce Tile
- Altro Dolce Essentials
- Altro Lavencia



K-12



College

Cafeterias

The constant presence of food and beverages, as well as moving tables, chairs and plenty of foot traffic requires a unique combination of products to meet the demanding needs of busy cafeterias.

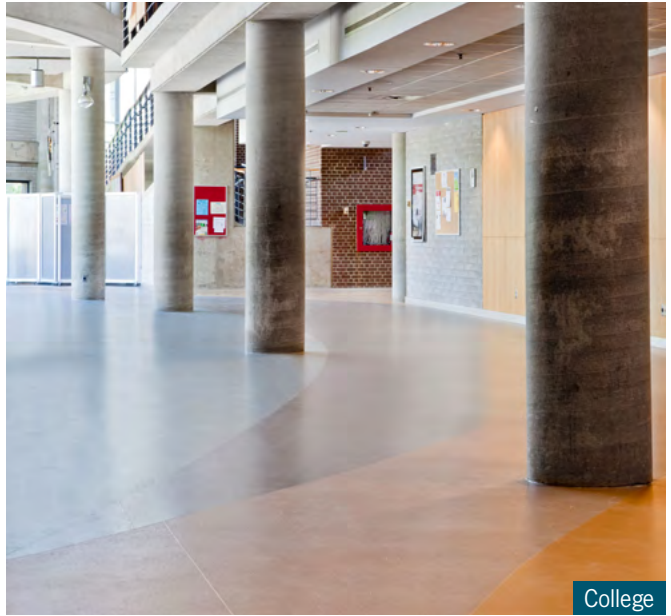
Altro Quartz Tile is a great smooth option while slip resistant sheet vinyl can offer enhanced safety and durability around lunch lines and areas of likely spillage. Altro Lavencia LVT may also be used to evoke a high end look, especially important for college and university cafeterias.

Top product choices

- Altro Quartz Tile
- Altro Lavencia
- Altro Wood Safety
- Altro Dolce Tile
- Altro Walkway 20



K-12



College

Hallways and corridors

Rigorous foot traffic stampedes through hallways and corridors daily, so flooring must stand up to everyday demands and be easy to clean.

Choosing the right flooring in these high-traffic areas is critical for visual impact and way-finding, as well as controlling long-term maintenance costs.

Top product choices

- Altro Quartz Tile
- Altro Dolce Tile
- Altro Dolce Essentials



K-12



College

Bathrooms

Bathrooms can be a dangerous area in the school, with water on the floor a real hazard. Students and faculty need to be protected from slipping. Altro safety flooring is the ideal solution, providing peace of mind while requiring very little maintenance.

Combined with Altro Whiterock wall cladding, the two products form a fully sealed, watertight system with no grouted joints to clean.

Top product choices

- Altro Walkway 20
- Altro Whiterock wall cladding



K-12



College

School kitchen

Commercial kitchens are some of the toughest environments for floors. Constantly exposed to grease, liquids and food, the floors in a busy kitchen can be a safety hazard. Thankfully our Altro Stronghold 30 flooring product offers superior slip resistance even in greasy or wet conditions.

With over 50 years of experience in commercial kitchens, Altro has products, accessories and knowledge that are uniquely tailored to create a total kitchen solution.

Top product choices

- Altro Stronghold 30
- Altro Whiterock wall cladding



K-12



College

Labs

Whether it is a full-scale university medical research lab or an introduction to chemistry class, school laboratories can be a harsh environment for floors and walls.

With resistance to a multitude of chemicals and substances, Altro's high performance flooring and wall cladding products are designed to meet the demanding needs of school labs.

Top product choices

- Altro Maxis Unity
- Altro Suprema
- Altro Zodiac Smooth
- Altro Whiterock wall cladding



Showers and pool facilities

When water is around the potential for slips and falls can rise exponentially. Altro Aquarius is the perfect solution for these areas as it provides a slip resistant surface to both shoe and barefoot traffic.

Combine this with Altro Whiterock wall cladding to create a complete solution for wet environments. Together these products form a water-tight, hygienic envelope that has become the industry standard for wet environments.

Top product choices

- Altro Aquarius
- Altro Whiterock wall cladding



Administration and offices

These busy areas must look their best for students, faculty, staff and visitors. Altro has a number of decorative products that will work with any design scheme and last through years of rolling chairs, moving desks, heavy office furniture and plenty of foot traffic.

Top product choices

- Altro Lavencia
- Altro Dolce Tile
- Altro Dolce Essentials
- Altro Quartz Tile



Residence halls

It's no wonder that student residence halls are the fastest growing area in colleges and universities. Studies have shown that student housing is proven to be a major role in student admission decisions. This requires flooring that not only looks beautiful but will last without costly or even routine maintenance.

Altro Lavencia luxury vinyl tiles and planks are the perfect flooring solution for dorms. Altro Lavencia offers amazingly realistic visuals in an array of sizes and finishes. Great looks aside, Altro Lavencia's outstanding performance is just what you expect from Altro. High quality luxury vinyl planks and tiles specifically constructed to handle the tolls of student residence halls.

Altro XpressLay: an adhesive-free problem solver



Altro also offers Altro XpressLay, the world's first adhesive-free sheet vinyl safety flooring. Altro XpressLay uses tape instead of adhesive so it's a great problem solver for many challenging areas of schools.

Altro XpressLay is perfect for:

- Areas with moisture issues, high IRH
- Areas with epoxy paint, go over it instead of shot blasting
- Go over existing tiles, VCT or vinyl asbestos tile

Altro XpressLay can go over existing tiles and epoxy paint, thereby avoiding costly removal and reducing installation time. It can even go over vinyl asbestos tile, allowing you to avoid costly asbestos abatement.

It installs fast and without adhesive, making it ready for use immediately.

This allows many jobs to be completed in a short period of time, such as over a long weekend!

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