Royal Holloway, University of London

Royal Holloway is one of the four largest multi-faculty colleges in the University of London and has a distinguished history and reputation for academic innovation.

Royal Holloway today has a vibrant community of well over 8,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students of all ages and backgrounds, from more than 130 countries. The need for a dedicated prayer facility was recognized in the early 1990s and after lobbying from Muslim students, a Prayer Room was allocated on campus which has since supported a thriving Islamic Society. After many years of use, it was inevitable that the prayer room would require refurbishment, specifically the ablution area where the hand basins used for ablution were inappropriate and potentially dangerous; the inevitable broken tiles of a traditional ablution construction added to the risk profile, as well as being a magnet for mould and other unwanted bacteria.

In 2008 a project was proposed to the College and despite the normal budgetary considerations of an educational establishment, this project was recognized as important and quickly approved. The prayer room was refurbished over a three week period in January 2009, with the WuduMate Classic being chosen for ablution.

Christopher Butler quotes: “I understand our Estate’s section looked at the options available for the washing of hands, face and feet, and felt the purpose built WuduMate Classic was the obvious choice, as it was inexpensive and easy to install. Most importantly, it has been excellently received by the members of our Islamic Society who use it.”

Nabil Hawa of the College Islamic Society adds, “the WuduMate Classic is an excellent replacement for the facilities we had previously, providing a comfortable, hygienic appliance for ablution; we have two units installed currently, one for men, and one for women; if there is any criticism at all, it is that there are not enough units to cater for the growing amount of worshippers on campus wishing to use them.”

For a free copy of ‘Diversity Matters’ - Guide to Best Practice Faith Room Design, or for additional information on the WuduMate Classic please contact WuduMate

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