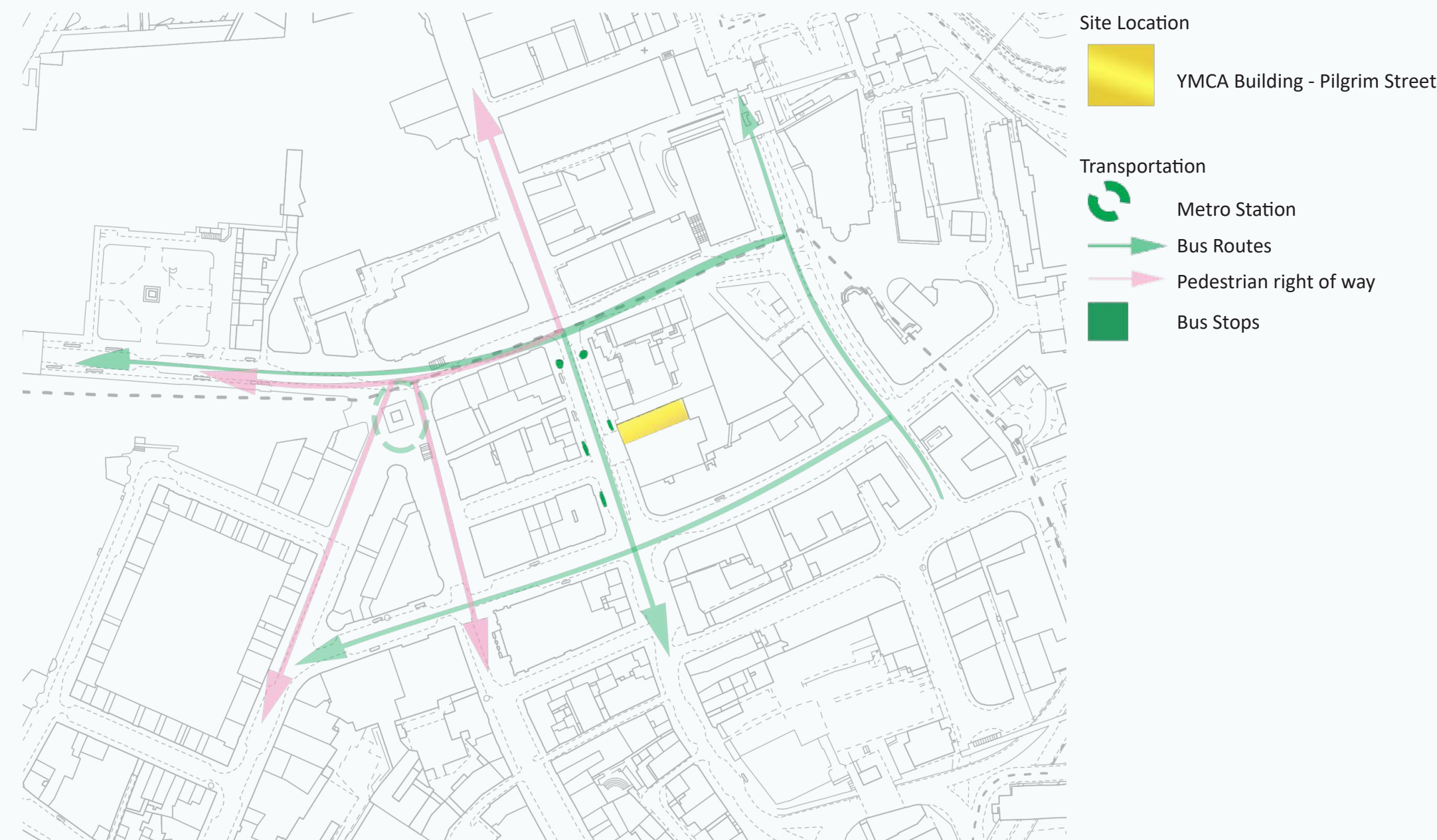


YMCA - Ceramics Charity Store and Workshop

Ceramics are quite complicated to recycle. There is no way to recycle it in the typical way you do other household items. They have to be taken to special recycling centres and even then the process of recycling pieces is too costly. Hence most pieces end up filling landfills and remaining there for years to come. There are several methods of reusing and recycling ceramics available but these options are not widely available to people.

This charity store will make use of this untapped market and become a hub where people can bring their ceramics. This store will make use of the donated pieces to create a circular economy in the store. In the same time a ceramics workshop will be created. This workshop will aid in upskilling the young adults the YMCA helps as well as becoming a secondary income as ceramics courses can be sold to the general public as well. Apart from counselling rooms and open working spaces have been created in order for the YMCA to still continue their activities. A cafe will also be set up for additional income and attracting further clientele.



Building Schedule - Recycling and Creating Ceramics

Ceramics come from the Greek word meaning “pottery”. Clay based tableware and art objects are what we typically know of as pottery.

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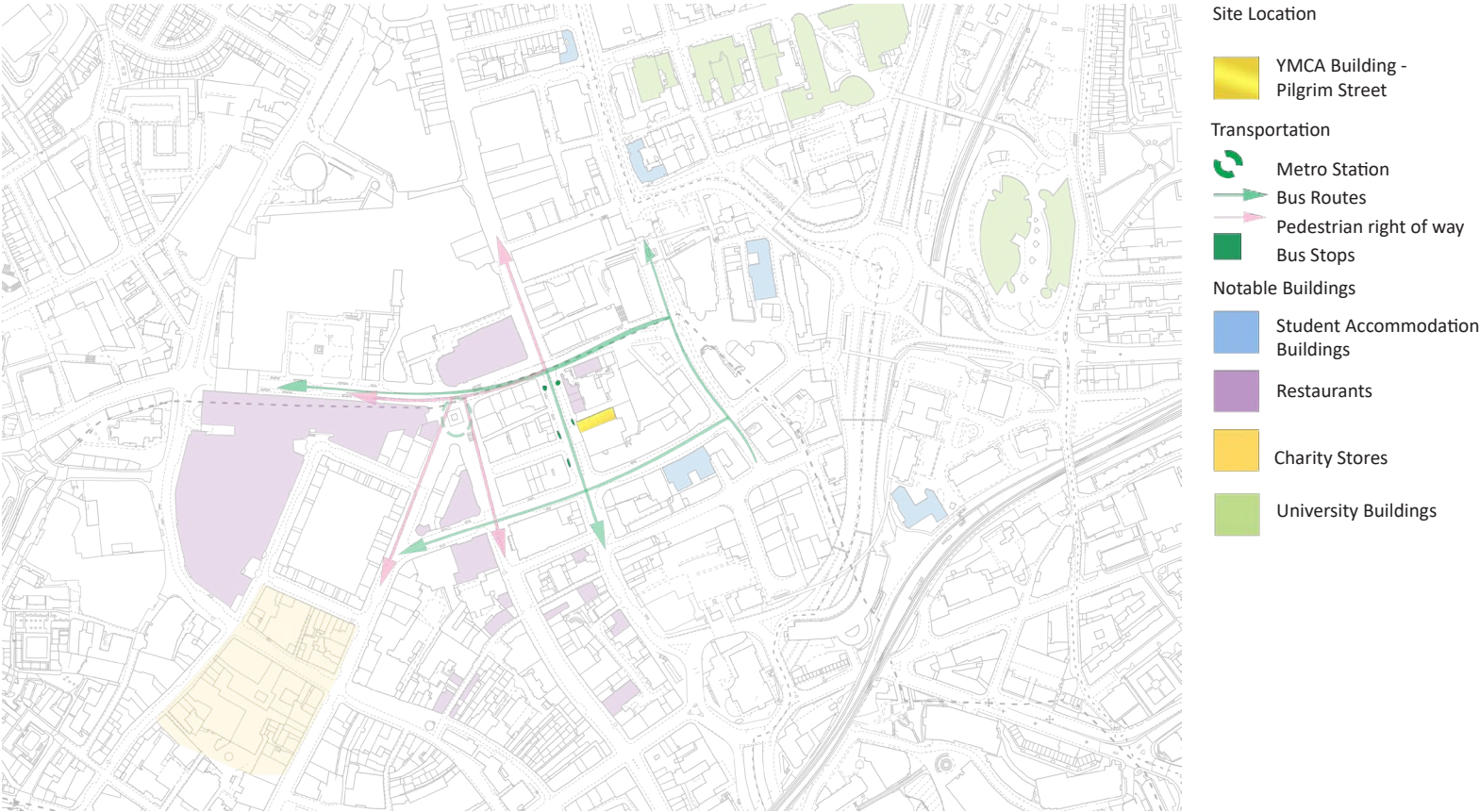
This charity store will make use of this untapped market becoming a hub where people can bring their ceramics. This location is quite advantageous for that as it allows for individuals to easily get there as well as allowing the great amount of neighbouring restaurants to donate their items as well.

This store will make use of the donated pieces to create a circular economy in the store.

The shop will focus on:

- Selling intact pieces.
- Re-glazing pieces which need sprucing up.
- Kintsugi for broken pieces
- Crushing pieces for mosaic.
- Crushing pieces to create recycled clay.
- Creation of new pieces from the recycled clay.

The stores operation is also outlined in the diagram below.

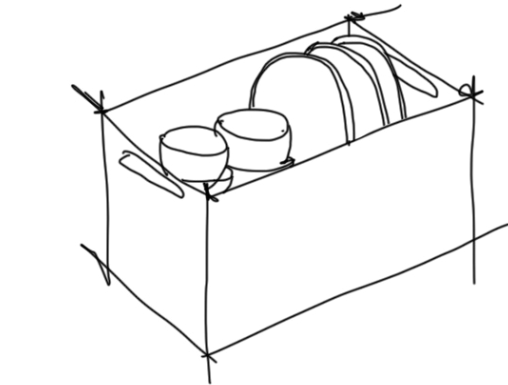


Most charity stores are positioned in the poorer areas and farther from the centre. Hence the YMCA charity store has the advantage of the location. However as it can be seen there are quite a lot of other stores so this one will have to bring something different in order to attract client-el. On top of that most charity stores have no specific layout for their items. It is about getting as much stuff on display and selling it as quick as possible rather than the experience. They should feel like any other store but they do not. Most charity stores have a focus on clothing.

Hence the approach is to create a unique, destination charity shop which plays on the student market in the city and focus on one category. A store that respects and brings to life this brutalist building. Keeping the buildings essence is important as it played in the idea of community and society.

Diagram of accommodation schedule

Donate unused or broken ceramic items to the store



Customers use the purchased item.

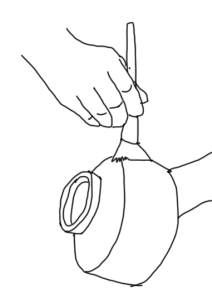


Processing the Donations

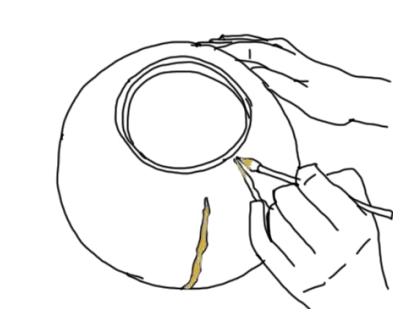
Intact items are cleaned.



Items that need sprucing are re-glazed.



Chipped and or broken items can be repaired through Kintsugi.



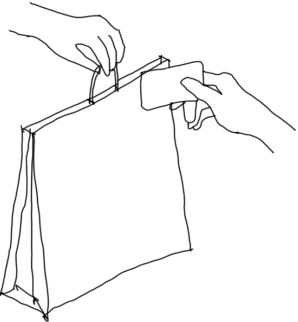
Broken pieces or which do not sell crushed to create mosaics.



Items beyond repair are crushed producing a fine powder that can then be used to make recycled clay. The recycled clay is then used to produce new pieces in house.



Items sold

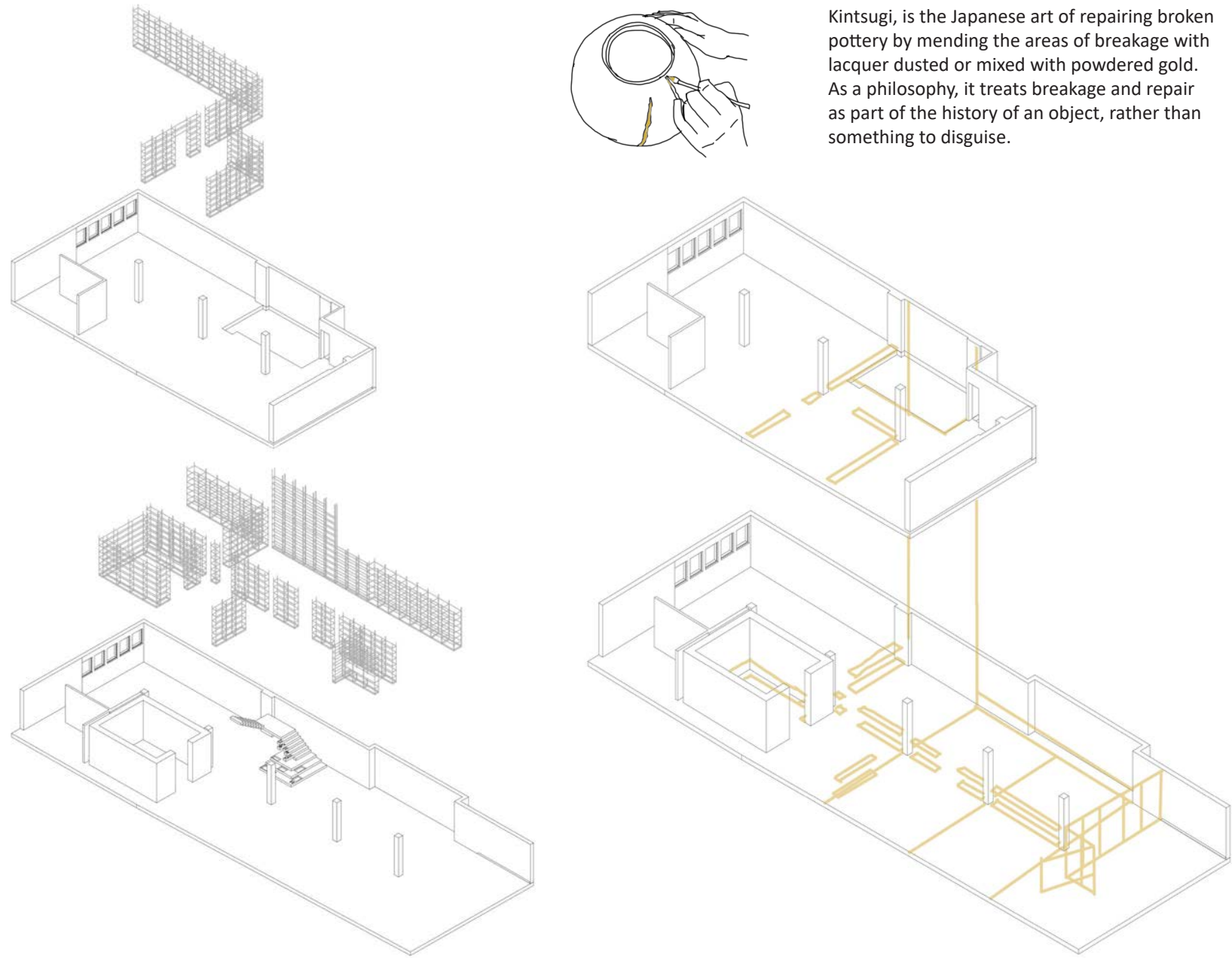


Items displayed

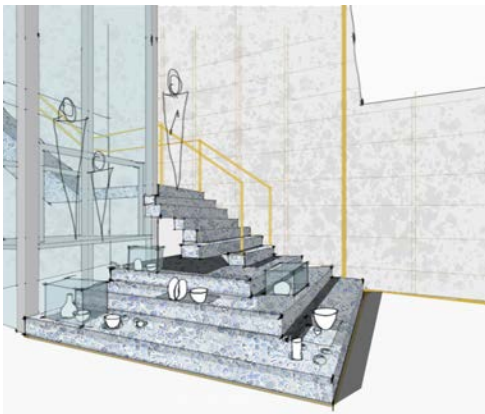


Concept and Diagrammatics

Creation of a space which has a limited number of physical walls and allows for direct view from one end of the building to another. Clearly defining which areas are private, public and semi public yet not enclosing them from each other. The only partitions being the timber structures which act as display for the ceramics and other furniture pieces through the building. One top of that Kintsugi is utilised to mark repairs throughout the building and as a general design concept.



Kintsugi, is the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery by mending the areas of breakage with lacquer dusted or mixed with powdered gold. As a philosophy, it treats breakage and repair as part of the history of an object, rather than something to disguise.



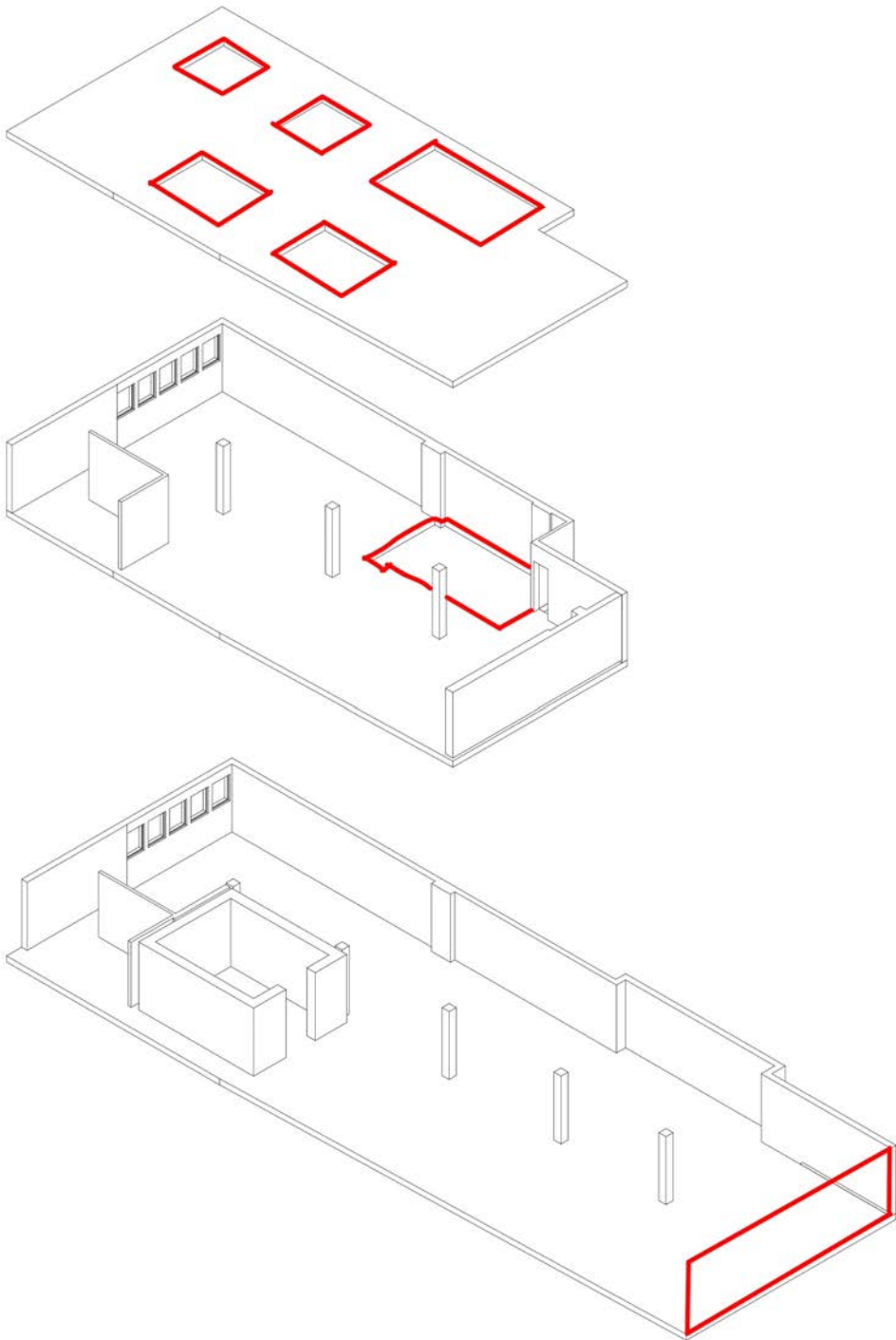
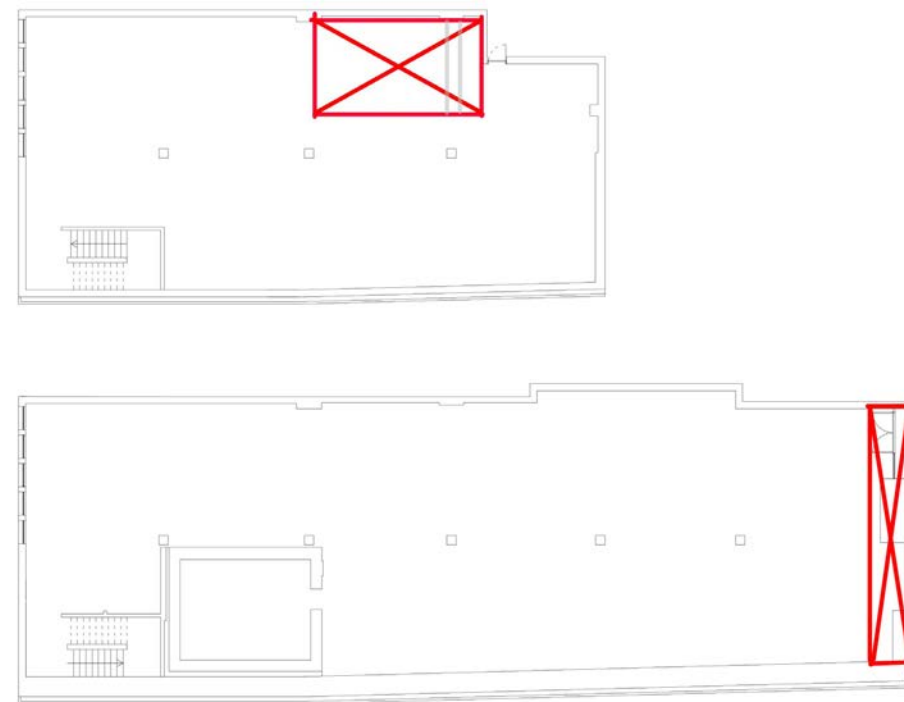
The philosophy of Kintsugi can easily be translated in the work the YMCA does. They up-skill people and help them through their rough patches, putting them back together. Hence Kintsugi becomes a key architectural feature. Gold pieces becoming connectors throughout the space, through joinery, thresholds, boundaries and visual markers.

Proposed Building Alterations

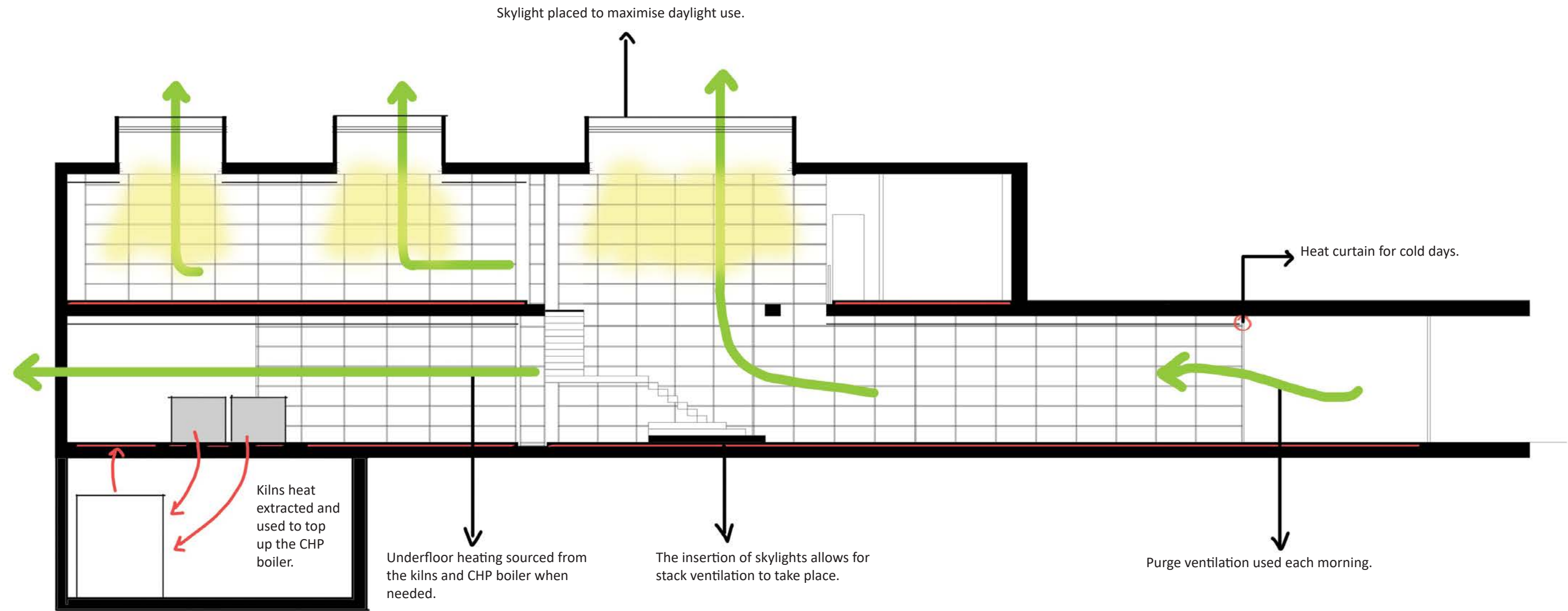
These illustration have marked in red the proposed demolitions which follow the existing load distribution. The removals of elements are done in the live load parts, in order to reduce the need of additional supports.

The proposed void created in the floor plate and in the roofs do not affect the supports and none of the beams or columns are removed.

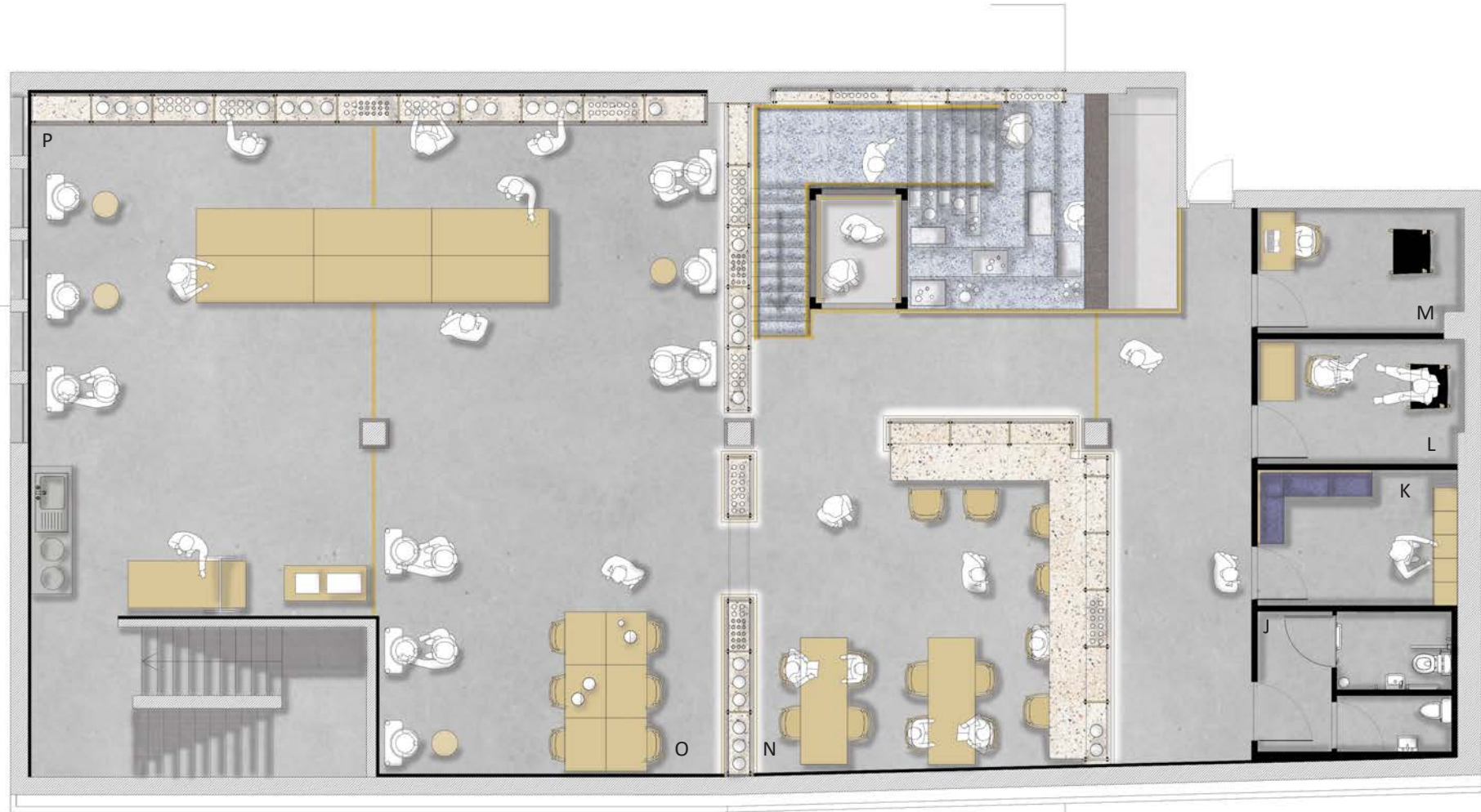
These alterations in turn are chosen to minimise waste and maximise the potential of the building.



Environmental Strategy



The first approach is linked to the daylight strategy. Skylights are added in order to maximize daylight especially in areas which need it the most like the ceramics studio and work area. Additionally these skylights have been raise and along with the removal of part of the floor plate on the first floor it allows for stack ventilation. This fixing the issue of poor ventilation. Lastly underfloor heating is done with the aid of the kilns and a CHP boiler. The boiler is connected to the kilns allowing for residual heat to be redirected to it. Hence when the kilns are in use the heating throughout the building is provided by the kilns.



- J - Toilets
- K - Staff room
- L - Counseling room
- M - Counseling room
- N - Work zone for young adults
- O - Kintsugi repair area
- P - Ceramics workshop - clay forming

Materials and finishes



Cork Board Insulation - Grey tint

Cork insulation made from recycled cork. Chosen for its acoustic and thermal properties as well as being a renewable material.



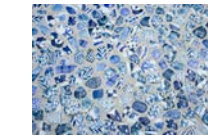
Recycled ceramic terrazzo - white binder

The terrazzo throughout is made from recycled ceramics.



Oak for shelving and other structures

The shelving will and other structures are made from oak a sustainable material.



Concrete with ceramic aggregate

Concrete with recycled ceramic aggregate for the new staircase is used to tie in with the design but also as a way to reduce carbon emissions.



Brass profiles and trimming

Used as a visual connection and representing the Kintsugi repairs.



Cement limited concrete - CEMFREE

This cement free concrete has been chosen for the new flooring in order to reduce carbon emissions yet obtain the desired look.



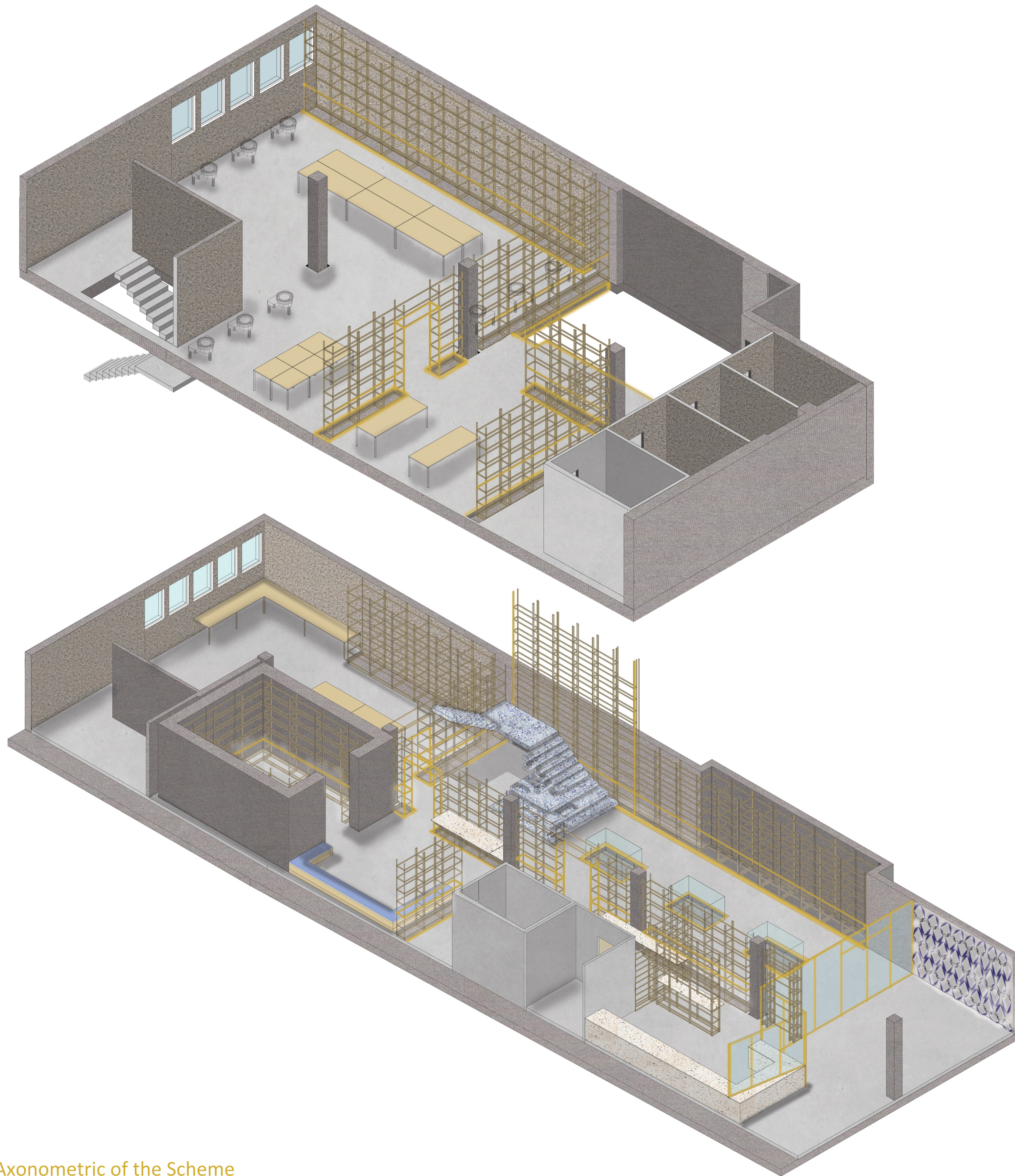
First Floor



- A - Donation point
- B - Purchase area
- C - Retail display area
- D - Cafe area
- E - Cafe storage and prep area
- F - Toilets
- G - Cafe seating area
- H - Kintsugi display area
- I - Ceramics workshop, glaze and kiln area, (an internal glass partition is positioned in front of the entrance shelves in order to allow for the area to be closed off if heavy glazes which offset a lot of toxins are used.)



Ground Floor



Axonometric of the Scheme



View from second floor ceramics studio.



View from second floor void.



View from store entrance.