

The Sanctuary:

A Women's Domestic Refuge - Georgia Parris



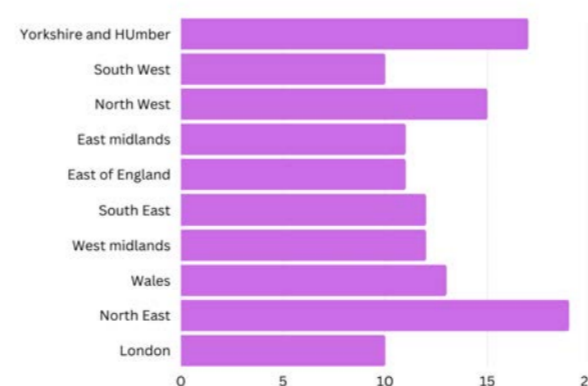
The Brief

Everyone should have access to a safe and secure home, sadly this is not always the case for women who face domestic violence. Across the UK 1.7 million women were involved in domestic-related crimes in 2022 alone.

Once a victim and possibly their children leave home, they are placed in a domestic refuge where they are kept safe from the abuser. Unfortunately, this is not always the end as women often have to go back to a violent home due to, lack of money, homelessness and their children. Therefore, a refuge is so important to help support victims, so they have the skills to be independent and secure within themselves. The Sanctuary has been proposed to help deal with the lack of support and availability of domestic refuges.

The Location

Number of Domestic crimes per 1000 victims in each county across England and wales



Number of beds per 1000 victims in each county across England and wales

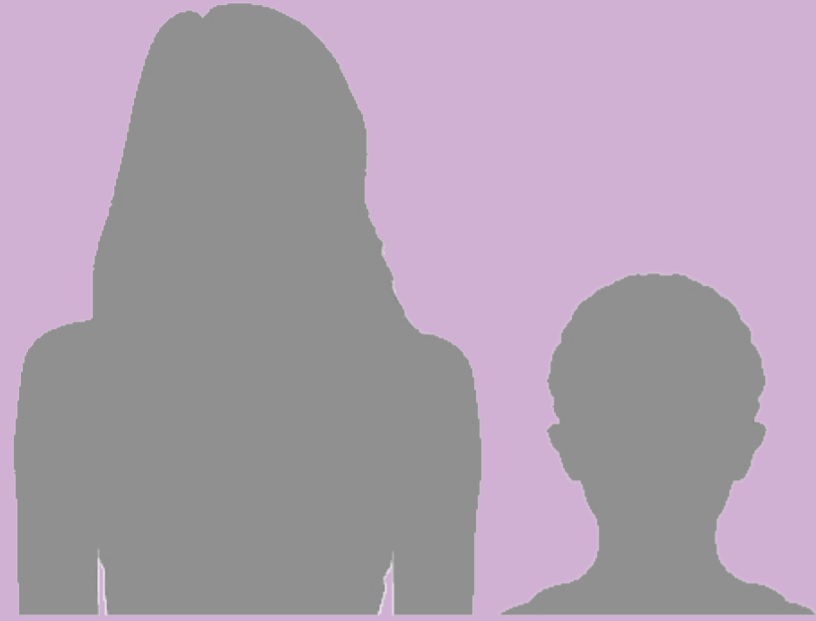


West Yorkshire has one of the highest amounts of domestic victims in England and Wales. However, they also have the lowest number of beds per victim, this being only 2 per 1000 people

Site plan of building in Armley, Leeds 1:500

User

People who are most effected by domestic violence are young women, specifically 18- 34 years old and their children. They face challenges with self-worth, independence and confidence.



Client

Women's Lives Matter are a charity and are the largest women's charitable organisation in Leeds. They support venerable women and their families including victims and survivors of domestic abuse. They also provide accommodation.

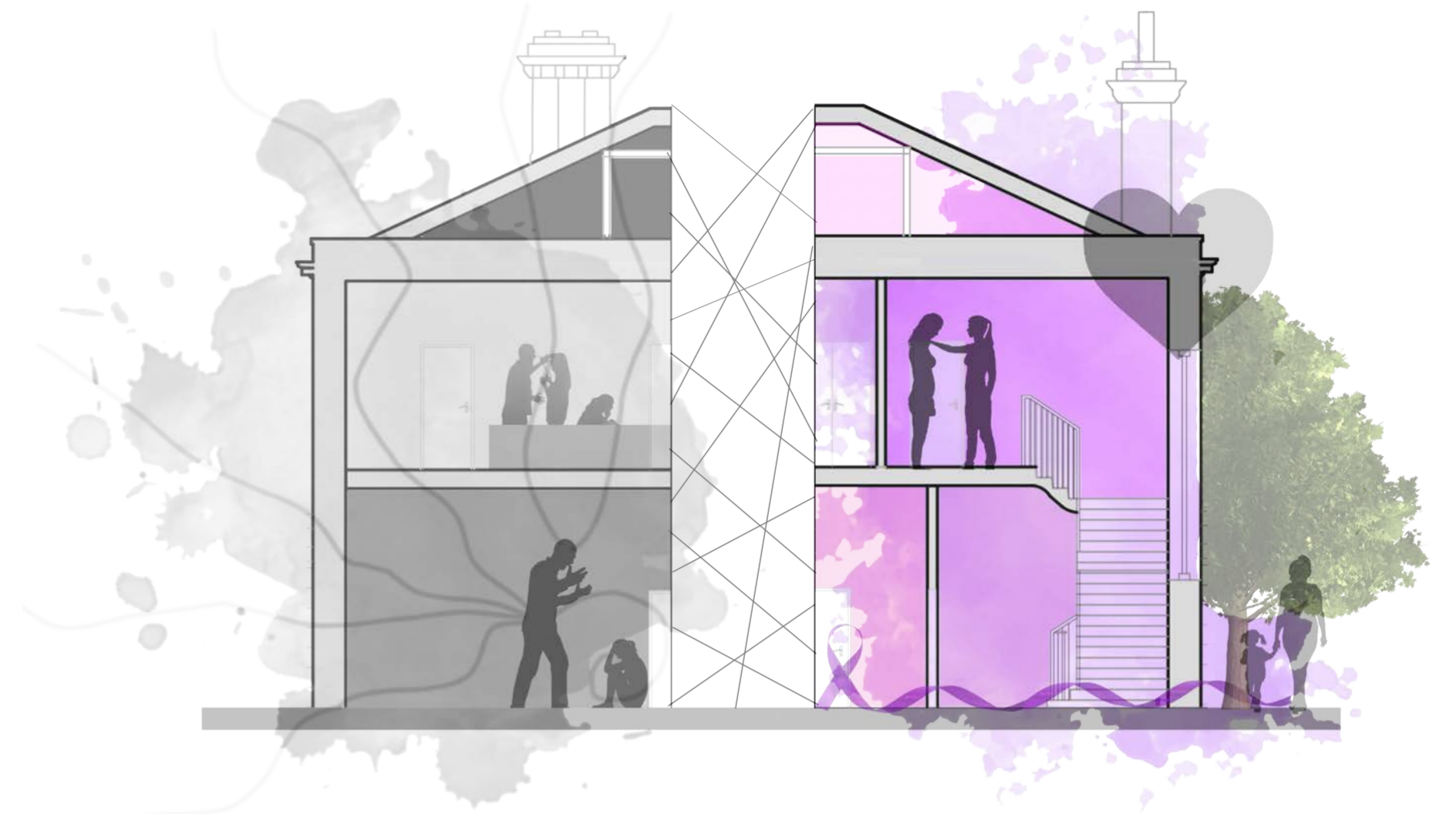
WOMEN'S LIVES LEEDS

Domestic Abuse

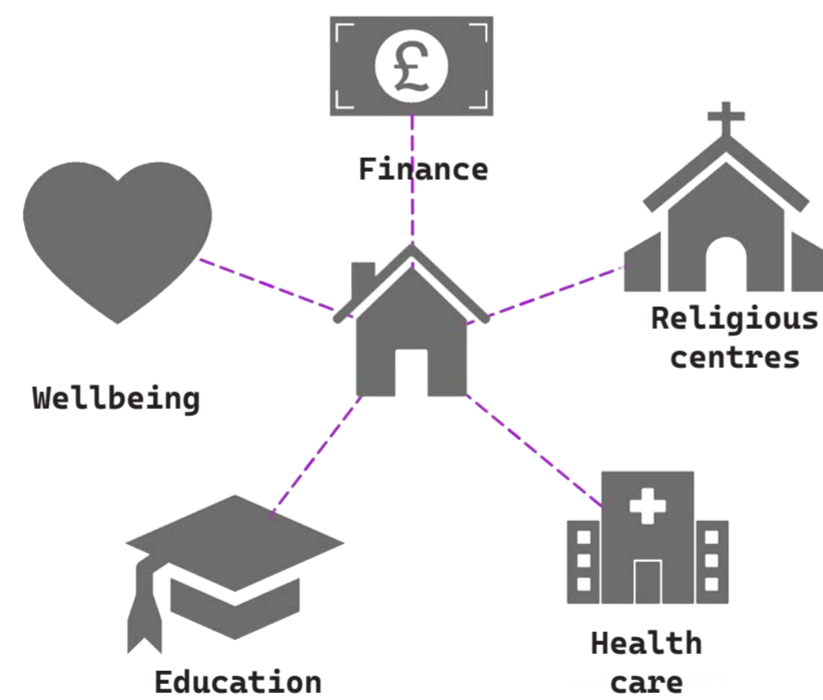
-  Physical abuse
-  Emotional abuse
-  Economic abuse
-  Sexual abuse
-  Technology abuse

Design Problem

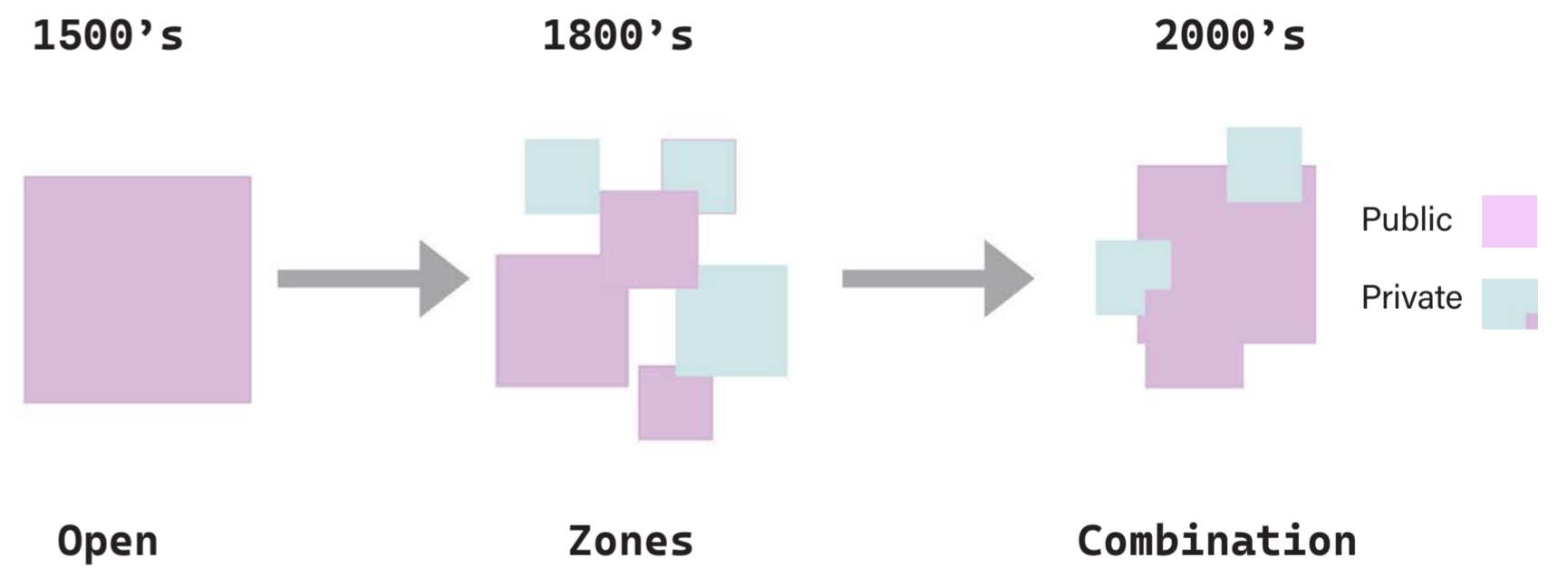
When women and their children face violence within their homes, they lose the positive and safe connections that are associated with it. As well as their individuality and independence. The design of a women's domestic refuge needs to address these key aspects; rebuilding the sense of home, learning new skills and to work on confidence and self-worth. The design strategy will use multi-sensory spaces to help the users understand their emotions. The space will help to reconnect women and their children with feeling safe at home, so they have the skills to integrate back into society and not have to be dependent on the abuser. A women's refuge should feel like a sanctuary and a fresh start.



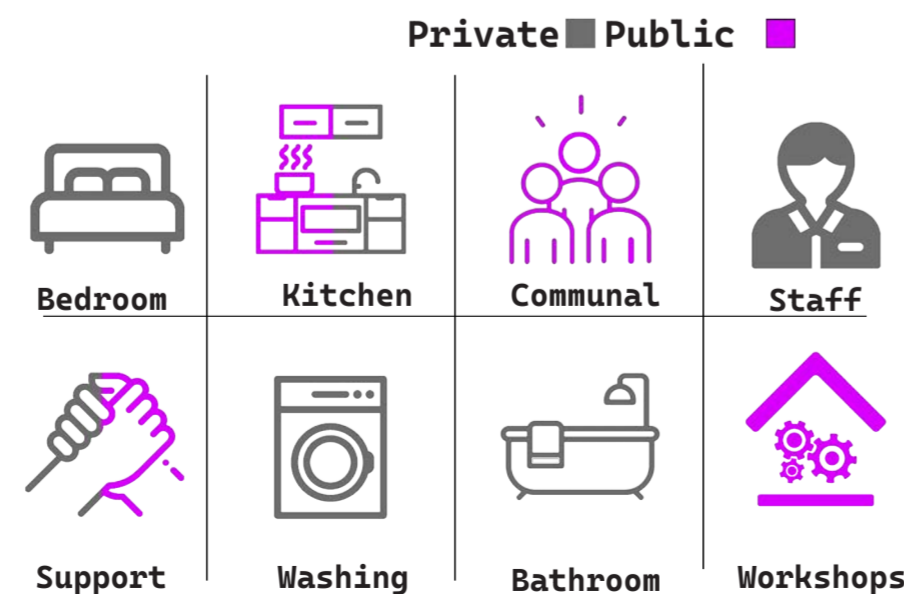
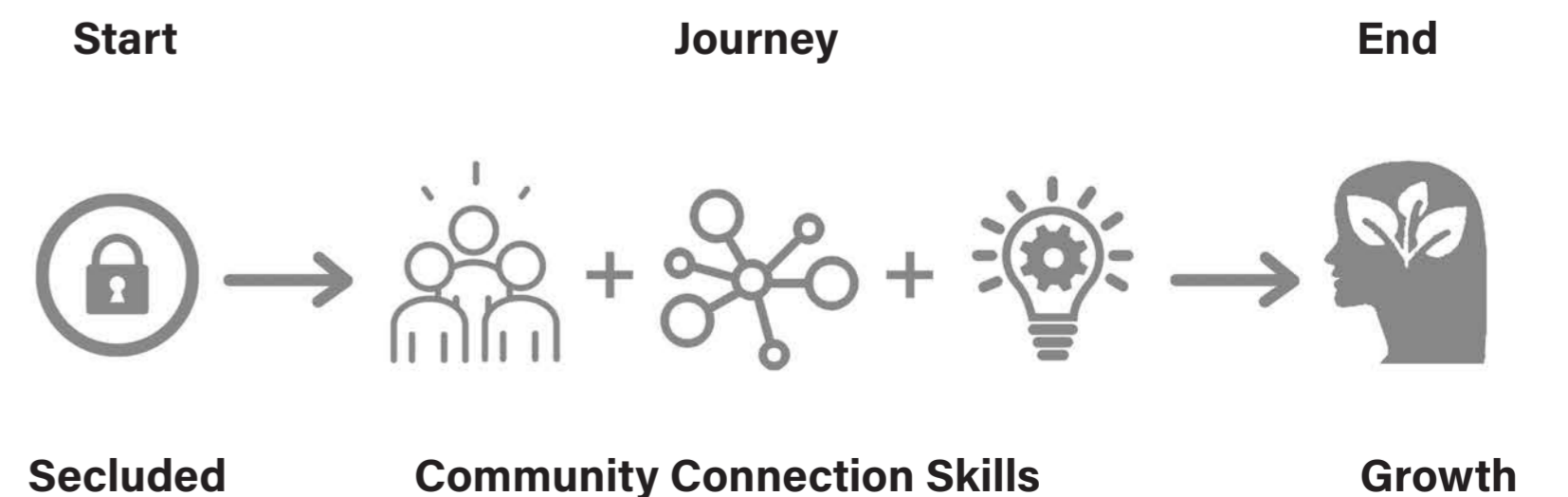
Domestic Refuge Facilities



Development Of The Home



Concept



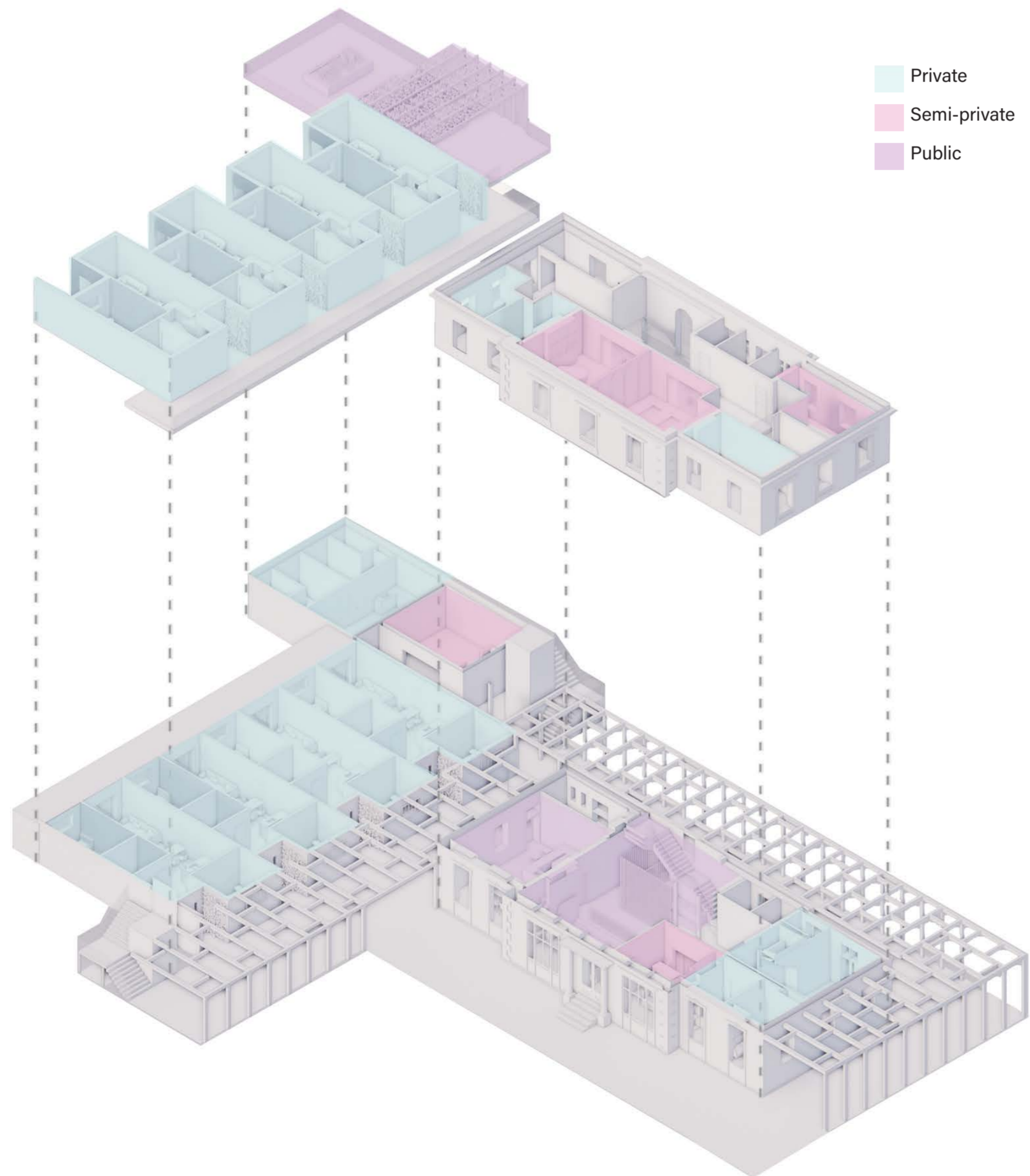
Public VS Private

The Sanctuary needed to have multiple areas to go to within the space, allocated for different needs. For example, with in the design there are; private living spaces, a quiet reading space, a communal sunken living area and a social/ games rooms. In doing so, the design proposal caters to individual user needs. Some users may want to be more social and use the communal areas, whilst others will want to be in their private or quiet spaces. Everyone has their own meaning of home and the sense of place which leads to different requirements. By using this design strategy of multiple usable social areas, it makes a space where every user should feel safe and comfortable with in the design, supporting the concept of sense of home and personal well-being and growth.

Each room was allocated an identity of this concept, which came from the research of public and private spaces and the development of the home. Depending on the needs of the space and the users the rooms are either private, semi- private and public space, this division can be seen in image to your left.

Adaptive re-use

Linking back to the concept the users have their own private entrances and gardens/ balcony's. This creates a transition between the public and private areas.



Private – used for individuals

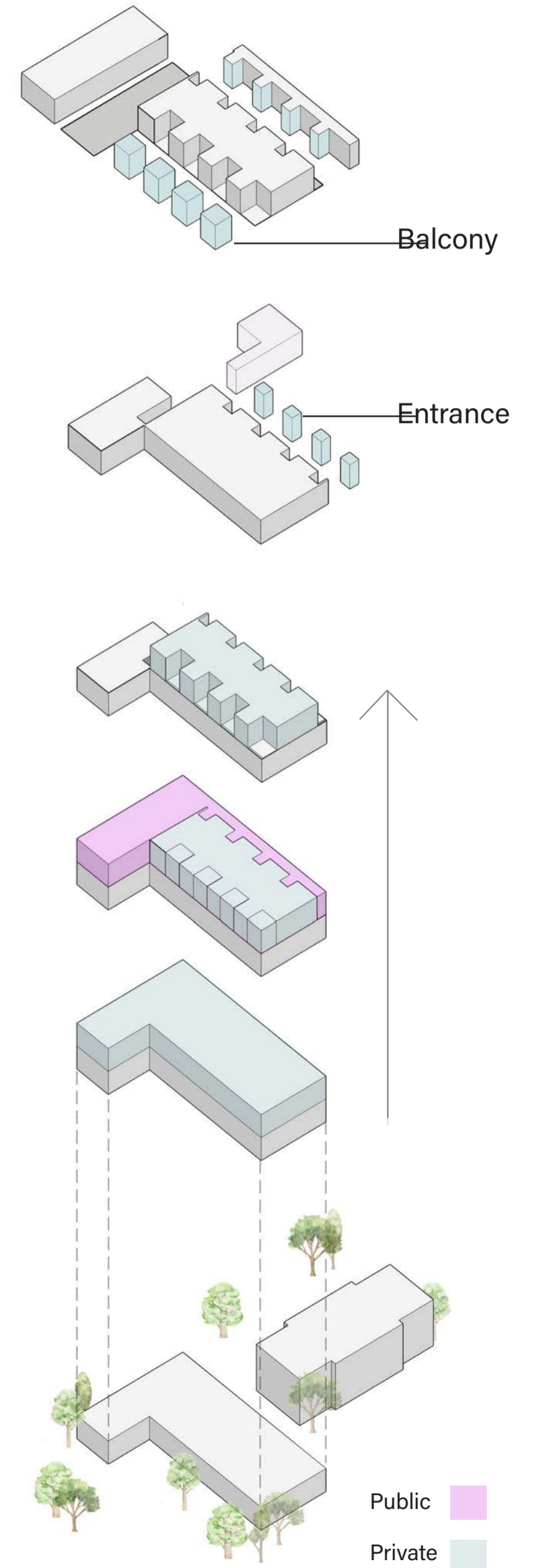
- Own entrances to residential space
- Personal gardens
- Staff rooms
- Private entrance to site when the user first arrives
- Counselling rooms
- Play therapy
- Light therapy

Semi- private – used by certain users at certain times

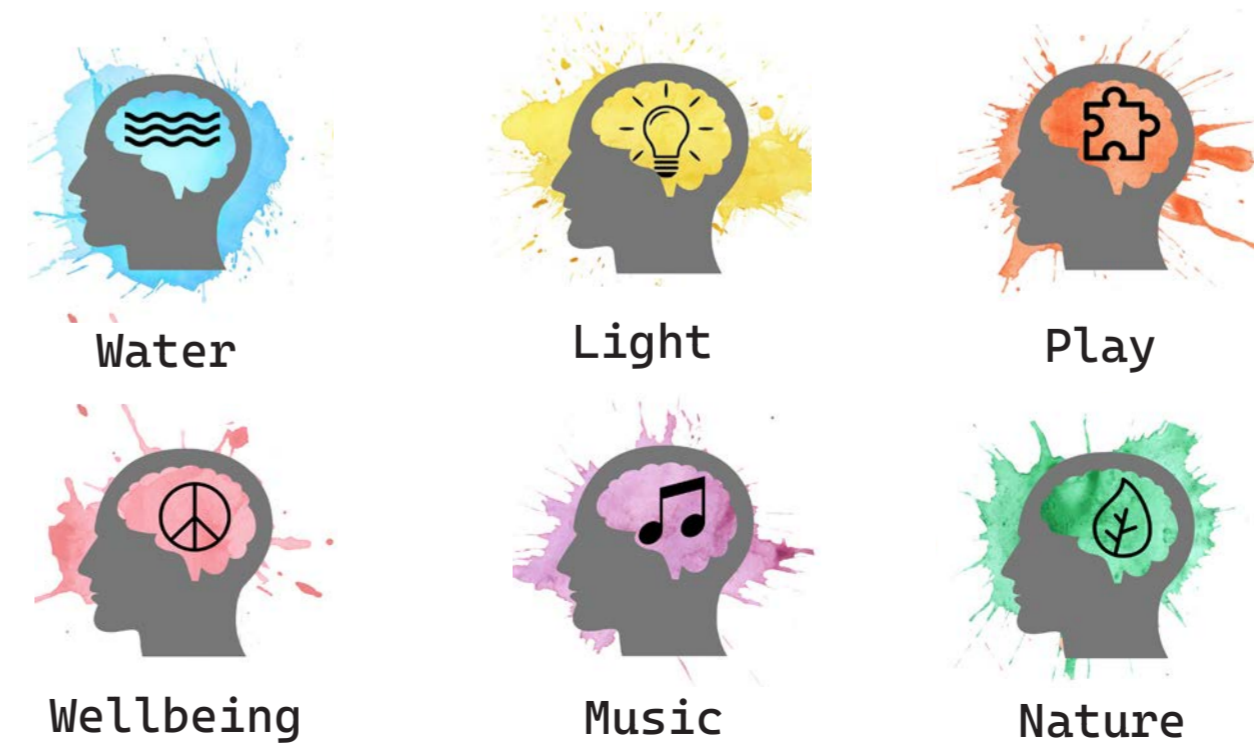
- Quiet reading room
- Child care
- Separate games room
- Wellbeing workshops
- Music therapy

Public – used by all users at any time

- Communal kitchen
- Sunken living area
- Retail space
- Roof top garden
- Large outdoor space



Multi - Sensory





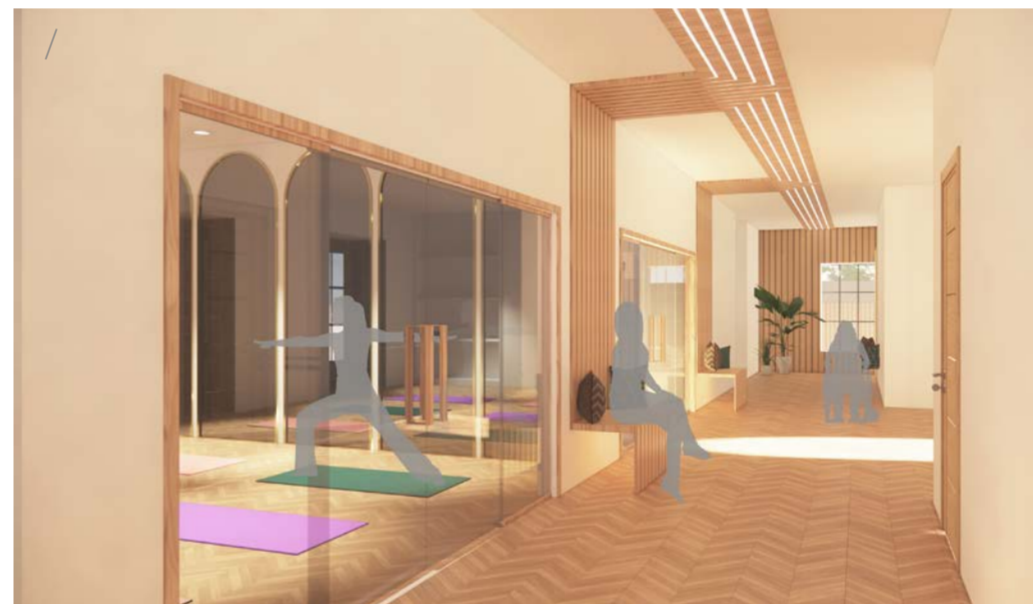
Roof top garden showing communal space and seating as well as private living areas.



Family living area found on the ground floor of residential area, showing personalised spaces.



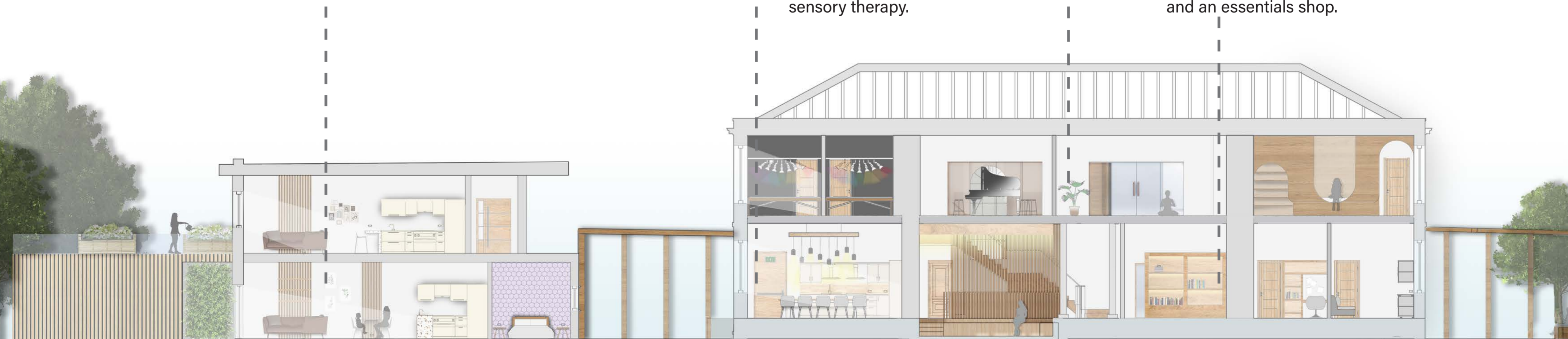
Communal open plan kitchen for users to use and come together as a community.



Upstairs communal circulation space with views of workshops and different forms of multi-sensory therapy.

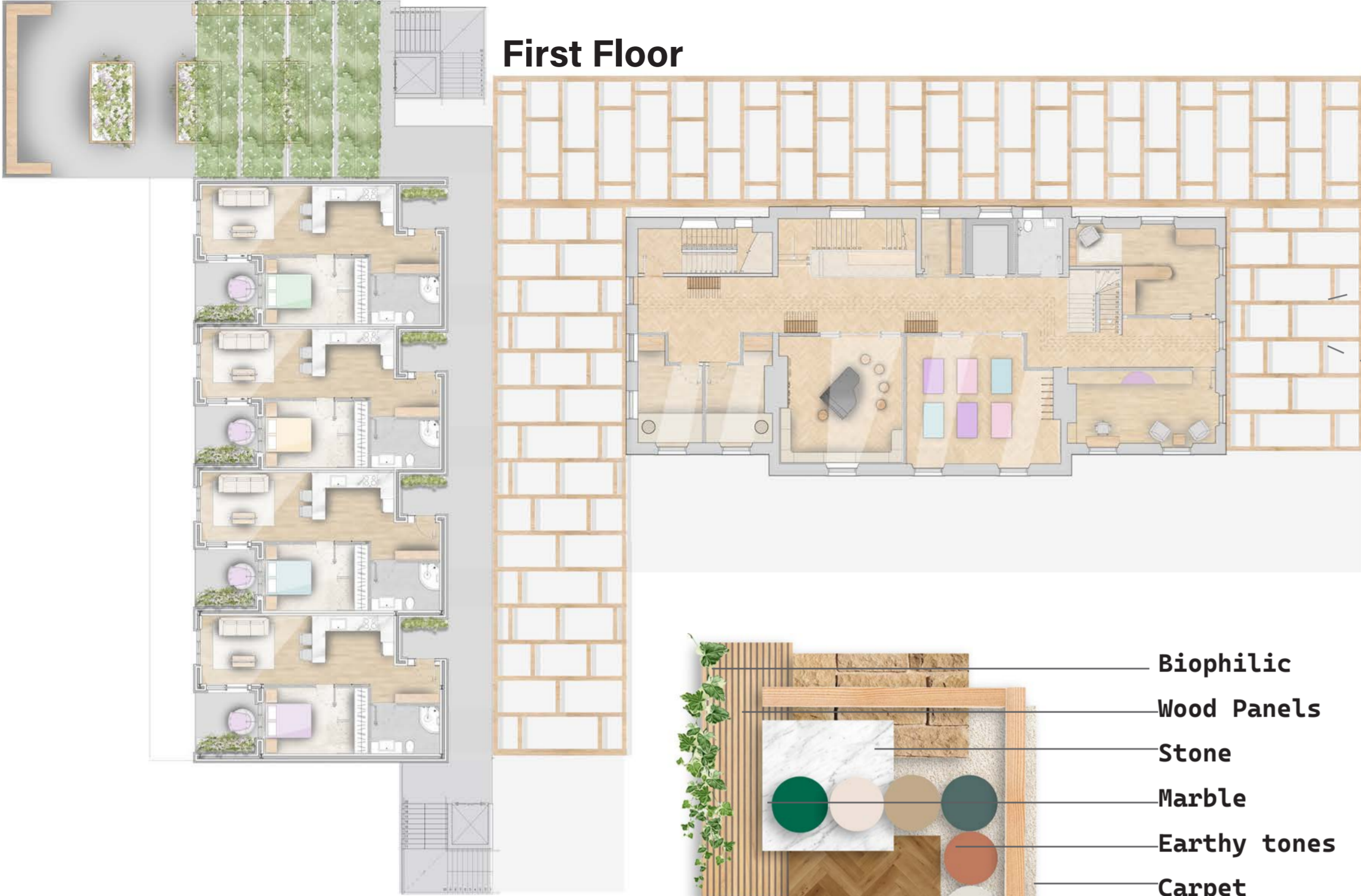


Communal public and private living areas which contain a quiet reading room, sunken TV room and an essentials shop.

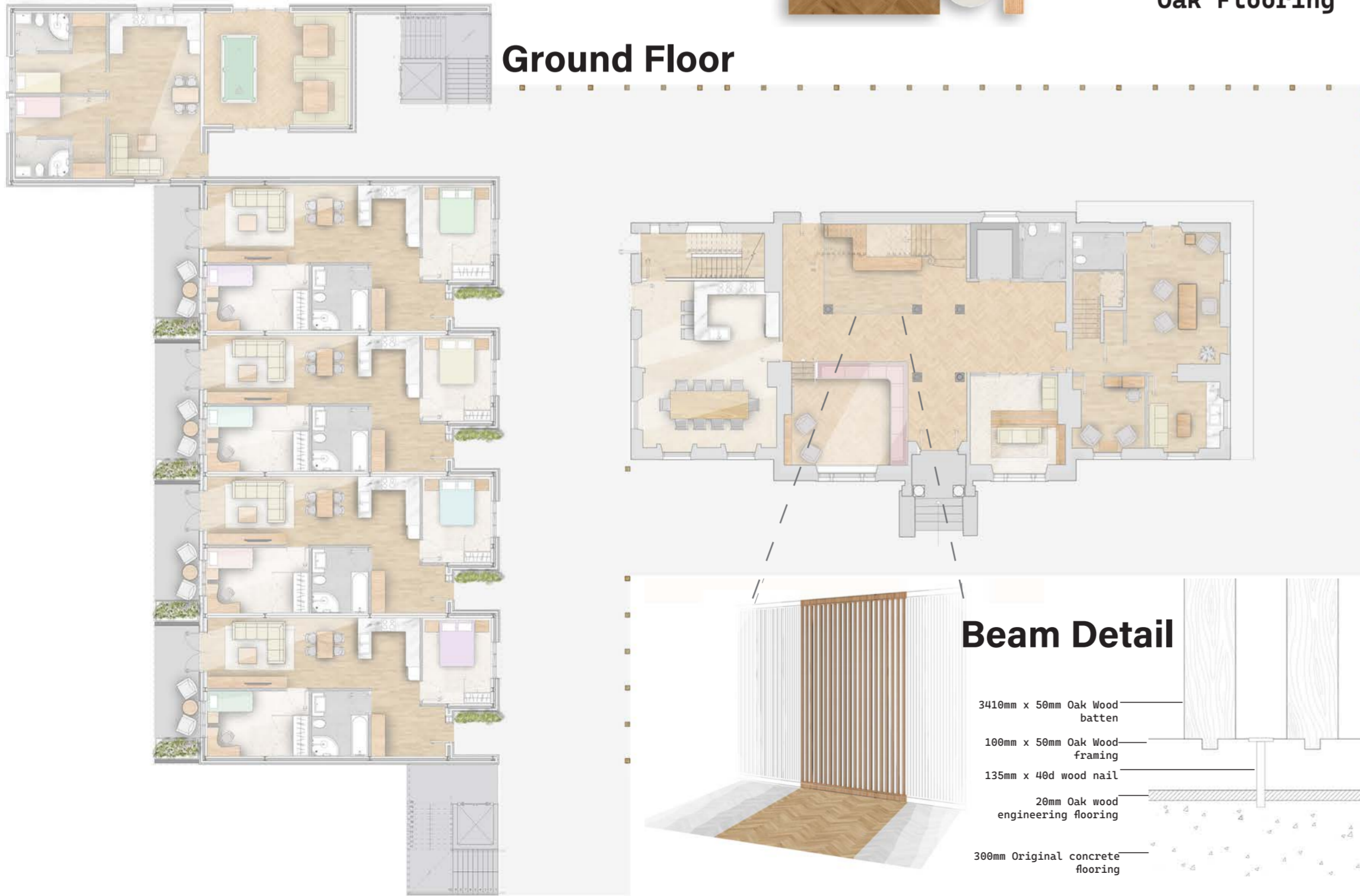


East Section - 1:100 Scale

First Floor



Ground Floor



Beam Detail

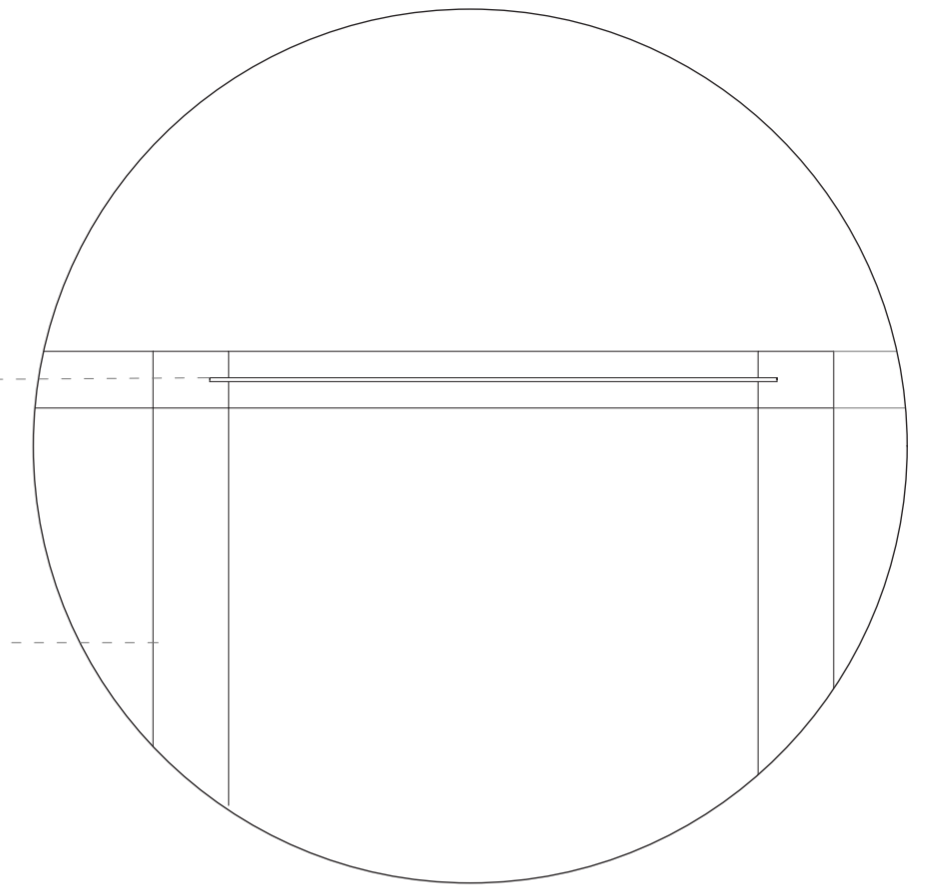
- 3410mm x 50mm Oak Wood batten
- 100mm x 50mm Oak Wood framing
- 135mm x 40d wood nail
- 20mm Oak wood engineering flooring
- 300mm Original concrete flooring

Details Of Outdoor Cover

1 - 1:20
Polycarbonate sheet sat in wood frame

10mm x 1500mm Polycarbonate sheet slotted inside of wooden frame - Glued into place with Polyurethane

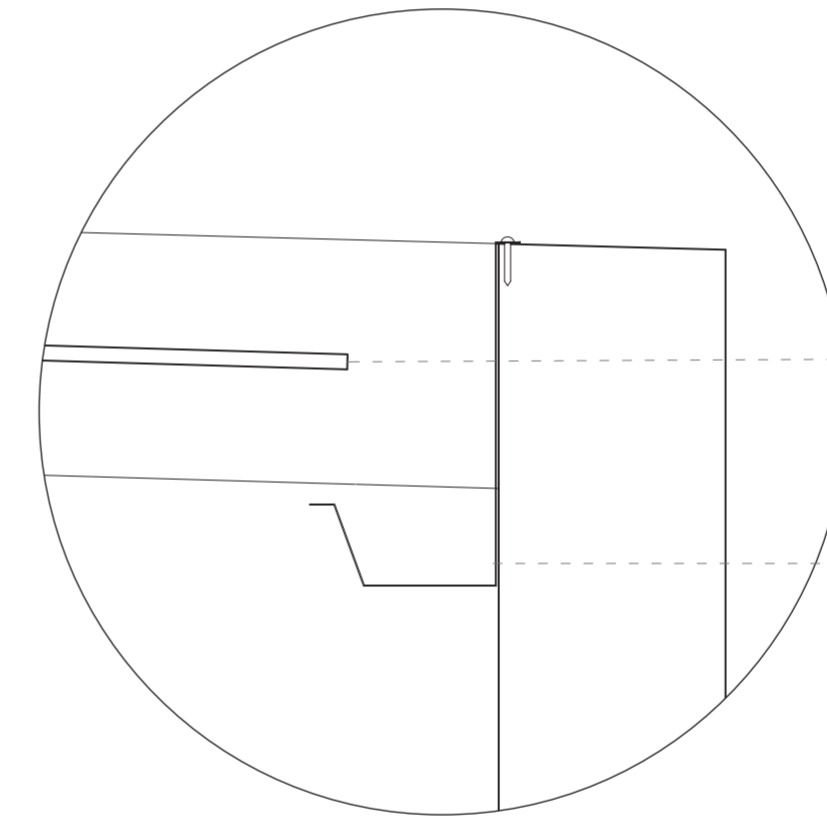
200mm Oak beam post



2 - 1:5
Drainage system from polycarbonate sheet into gutter

Polycarbonate Sheet a 2 degree angle for drainage - 100mm gap between sheet and frame for water and debris

220mm x 120mm x 3mm Floplast half round gutter in white - Gutter led to drainage pipe at the end of framing - Attached by 10mm wood nail at top of frame



3 - 1:5
Post sat in the ground

200mm wooden post

10mm cast-in-place concrete

15mm U-Bracket steel sheet - 100mm above ground to protect wood from rotting - held into place by bolts set into concrete

Postconcrete 470mm x 300mm

