



THE FUTURES HUB

By Laura Thompson

A collaborative, social and supportive creative hub, created in response to the current climate, for the future of our workplaces.

THE ISSUE

Since the COVID19 pandemic the world and our workplaces were **put on hold**. **Working from home became the new norm** and **creatives had to adjust** the way they worked to suit home life.

Working from home benefited many but it **created issues** of isolation, lack of collaboration, inspiration, support, creativity, bouncing off of others. As well as these issues the lack of social interaction and collaboration caused **a mass mental health crisis**.

THE FUTURE OF WORKPLACES

As the world slowly progresses back to a state of normality, and some return to work, the **importance and invaluableeness of the workplace has become apparent** to so many. **As we evolve** to a new way of life, our **workplaces will need to too**.

The future of workplace design and co-creation spaces **should be collaborative and social** to fight the growing epidemic of social closure, social anxiety and loneliness brought on by the isolation of lock downs and the growing normality of working from home. This will **help re-build** companies, communities, teams, relationships and creativity, and that collaboration is the thing so many of us crave, having felt like we've **missed out on genuine connections for so long**.



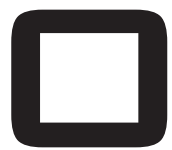
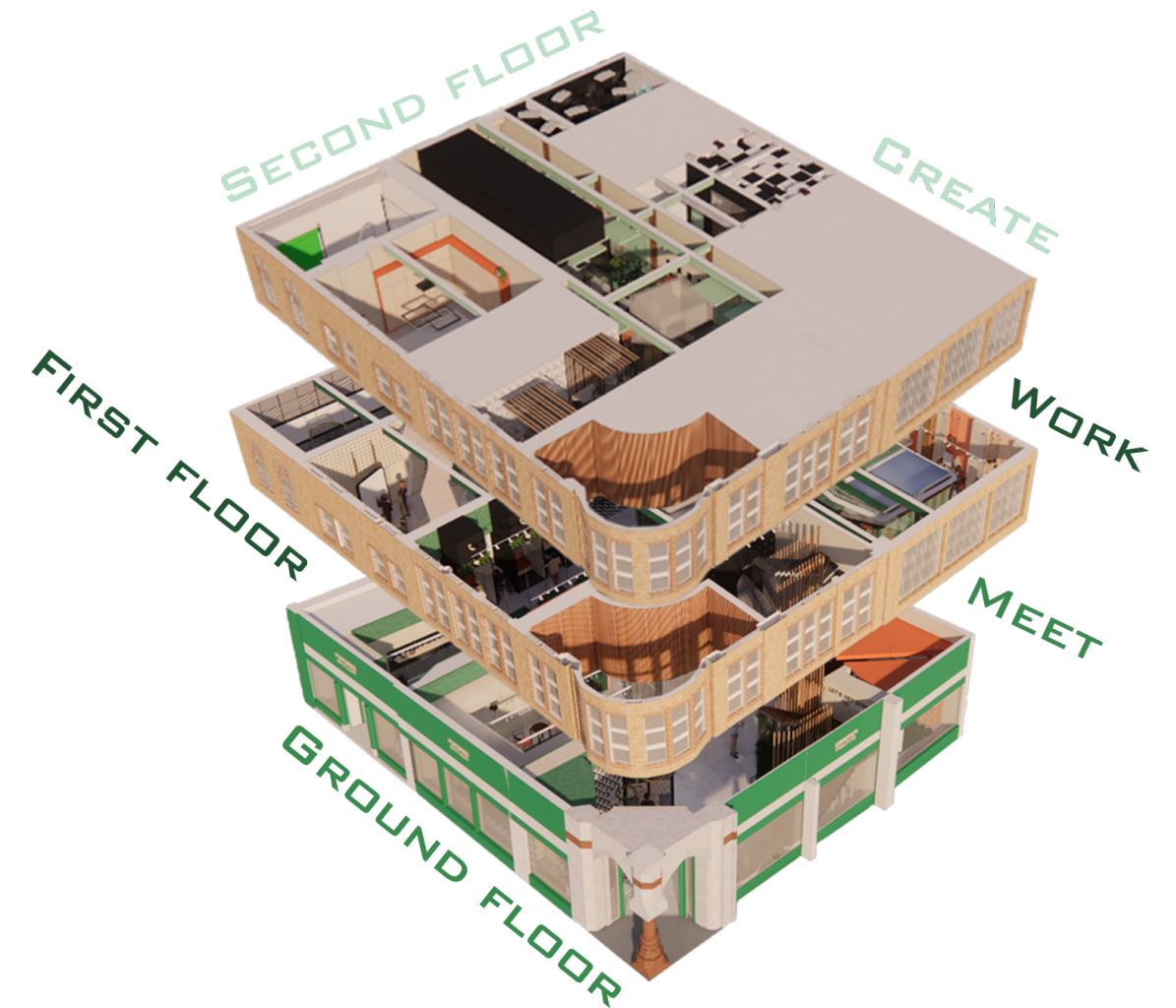
**“COMING TOGETHER
IN THE WORKPLACE TO
SOCIALIZE AND
COLLABORATE WILL
BECOME THE
GREATEST PURPOSE
THAT THE NEW
OFFICE CAN FULFIL”
(STEELCASE.COM)**

WHAT IS THE FUTURES HUB?

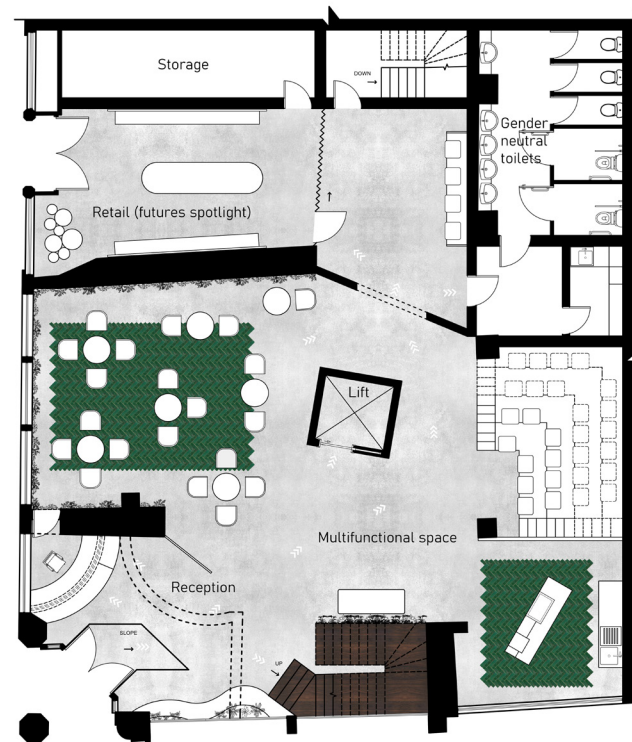
The Futures Hub is located in Leicester City centre and is residing in the old, iconic, Fenwick building. **It's goal** is to create a place where **small creative businesses, entrepreneurs and students** can **network, meet, grow, be supported and collaborate between interdisciplinary**s.

The design **promotes multi-functionality and encourages collaboration** and networking between creatives of all backgrounds and specialities. It does this by **offering co-working work areas**, promoting strangers to start conversations with one another and offer support and advice.

Another **key part** of the space is the **facilities on offer to creatives**. Many **smaller creatives don't have access** to creative work environments, facilities and business advice, which **they may need, and could benefit from** in the **growth** of their practise and/or business venture.

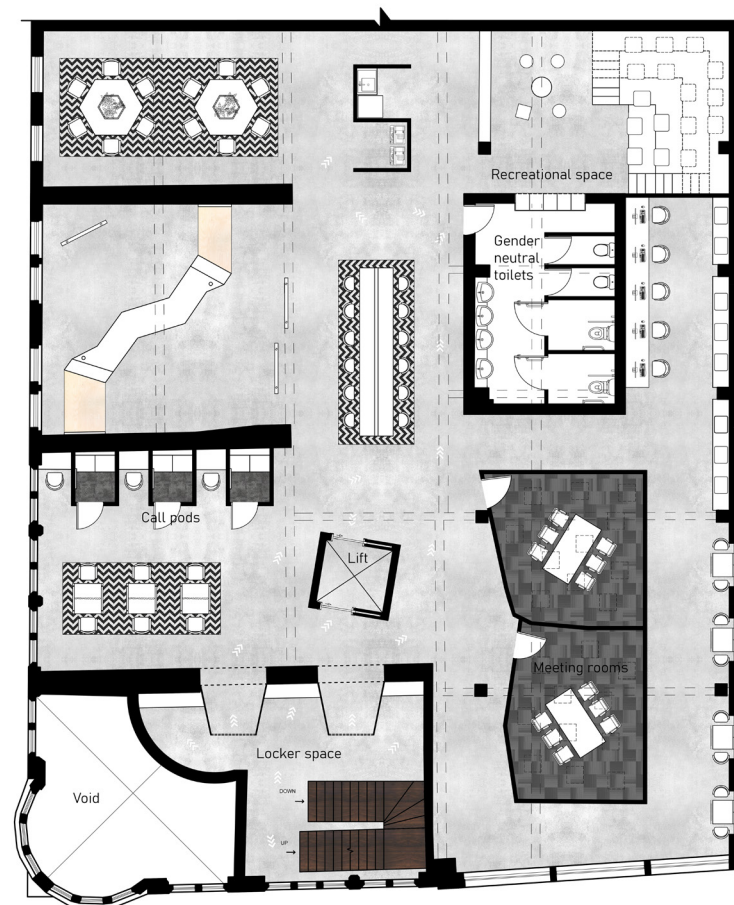


GROUND



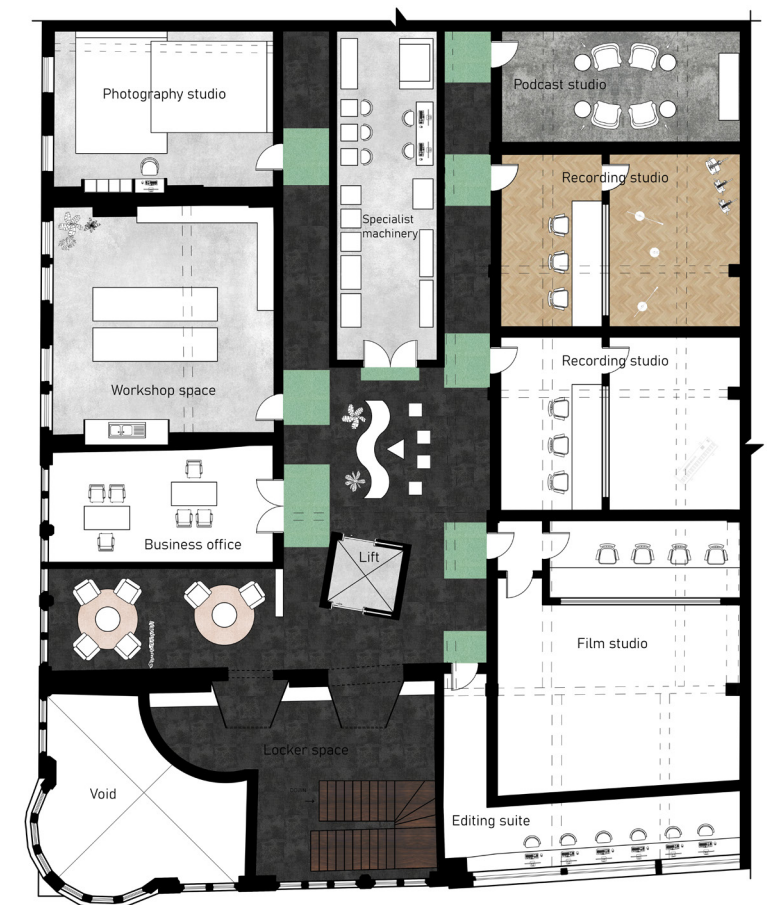
1

FIRST



2

SECOND





ENTRANCE & RECEPTION

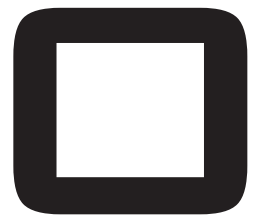


MULTI-FUNCTIONAL CAFE SPACE



FUTURES SPOTLIGHT RETAIL SPACE

GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



Designed to be **multifunctional**, the ground floor **can serve as** a collaborative cafe, event space, exhibition space, conference space and meeting space. Attached to this space is **'Futures Spotlight'**, a small retail space which serves as a **short-term rental shop**, at discounted rent, **for creatives of the hub to rent**, in order to **try out the success** of their business **before branching out to a long-term rental** on the high street.

A range of **different types of collaborative work stations** can be found on this floor to **suit a variety of needs** and cater to **different sized groups**. The floor is largely **open plan to encourage** user motivation, inspiration and make it easier to find others to **collaborate and connect with**.



CO-CREATION WORK SPACES



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CORRIDOR



PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

SECOND FLOOR

2



PODCAST STUDIO



RECORDING STUDIO

The second floor is home to **a range of facilities for creatives** to book and have access to, **these include:** an in-house **business office** where creatives can come and get business advice from professionals, a **workshop** space, **photography** studio, **podcast** studio, two **recording** studios, a **film** studio, an **editing suite** and a space where **specialist machinery** can be found.