



How Movable Walls & Folding Partitions Are Transforming Flexible Learning Spaces in Schools

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At Monowa, we work with schools and colleges across the UK to supply, install, service and maintain movable walls and folding partitions designed specifically for education environments.

Schools require adaptable spaces that can respond to changing class sizes, varied teaching formats and the multiple uses of halls for assemblies, exams and sport. Fixed walls restrict that flexibility, whereas our movable wall and folding partition systems enable education buildings to operate more efficiently without permanent structural alteration.

What are movable walls and folding partitions in schools?

Movable walls and folding partitions are full height partition systems that allow a room to be divided or opened up as required. Unlike traditional construction walls, they operate along a ceiling track or floor track and can be stacked neatly when not in use.

In schools, movable walls are commonly used to:

- Divide larger classrooms into smaller teaching areas
- Separate a school hall for exams
- Create flexible multi use learning spaces
- Open adjoining rooms for collaborative teaching

Where higher levels of sound control are required, acoustic movable walls are specified. These operable wall systems are designed to provide defined room separation with improved sound reduction between adjacent spaces.

They are also referred to as operable walls, movable partition walls or sliding folding partitions. While terminology varies, the purpose remains consistent: controlled room division that can be repeated daily

Why use movable wall and folding partition systems?

Education buildings are used continuously throughout the day. A classroom may need to function as one large teaching space in the morning and two smaller rooms in the afternoon. A hall may need to be split for simultaneous activities.

By installing movable walls for schools, we enable:

- Flexible reconfiguration of space
- Separation between teaching groups
- Temporary room creation during exams

- Practical division of larger halls
- Better use of existing floor area

Our systems are designed for straightforward manual operation or semi-automatic operation and reliable daily use within busy education environments. Fully automatic systems are available but don't tend to be utilised in the education sector due to cost.

Acoustic performance in education environments

Acoustic control is essential in schools. Sound transfer between adjacent rooms can affect concentration and teaching effectiveness.

Depending on the system selected, acoustic movable walls and folding partitions can achieve sound reduction ratings from Rw37dB up to Rw60dB. The required specification will depend on how the adjoining spaces are used.

Acoustic performance relies on attention to detail including correct installation, appropriate structural support and ongoing maintenance. Track systems, panel alignment and seals all contribute to maintaining acoustic integrity over time.

Our systems for education projects

For education projects, we focus on three core systems: MonoWall, MonoFold and MonoWave. Each is selected based on opening size, acoustic requirement, structural conditions and frequency of use.

MonoWall – Movable Wall Systems

MonoWall is our high performance movable wall system, typically specified for larger openings within schools.

These operable walls consist of individual panels, individually operated, that form a secure room division when closed and stack neatly when opened. MonoWall systems are commonly used to divide a school hall, sports space or multi use learning area.

These systems require structural support at the head and are usually fixed to steel beams or concrete slabs. During our site survey, we assess structural support, ceiling construction and stacking arrangements to ensure safe installation and reliable long term operation.

MonoWall systems do not have floor tracks – all the weight is taken at the head

We have an in-house Acoustician as part of our contracts management team for high specification projects.

Pass doors, if required, are available upon request.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

MonoFold – Sliding Folding Partitions

MonoFold is our sliding folding partition system, widely used in classrooms and smaller teaching areas.

These hinged panels slide along a track, fold and stack to one or both sides of the opening. MonoFold sliding folding partitions can be configured as single parting or bi parting depending on the room layout and available space.

These systems can be centre-pivoting, end-pivoting or our bespoke eccentric stacking range

A pass door is generally incorporated as part of the design to allow access without opening the full partition, supporting day to day classroom operation.

These systems are generally floor mounted where the weight is taken at the base and no structural support (steel or concrete) is required at the head.

MonoFold provides a practical and cost effective solution where flexible room division is needed without the specification of a full operable wall system.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

MonoWave – Vinyl Concertina Partitions

MonoWave is our vinyl concertina partition system. This lightweight folding partition offers a straightforward room divider option within appropriate education settings.

MonoWave systems are typically used where simple space separation is required and acoustic performance demands are lower than those of MonoWall.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Installation within live school environments

We understand the constraints of working within operational schools and colleges. Our process is structured to minimise disruption wherever possible.

Every project begins with a detailed site survey. We assess:

- Ceiling structure and load capacity
- Floor condition and finish
- Opening dimensions
- Stacking configuration
- Frequency of daily operation

We provide a comprehensive service from consultation through to installation and handover, coordinating with the school and/or main contractor to programme works appropriately.

Installation is carried out in line with manufacturer guidance and current regulations to ensure safe and reliable performance.

Servicing, maintenance and compliance

Movable walls require routine servicing to ensure continued safe operation.

We recommend a full service every 12 months depending on usage. Regular maintenance supports compliance with the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 and helps protect rollers, seals, locking mechanisms and track systems.

Ongoing servicing maintains acoustic integrity and operational reliability. With appropriate maintenance, movable walls can provide long service life within education environments.

As part of our education sector offering across the UK, we provide planned maintenance programmes and reactive repair support for MonoWall, MonoFold and MonoWave systems.

Contact us to find out more

If you are planning a refurbishment, extension or new build within a school or college, we can assist with the specification, supply, installation and ongoing maintenance of movable walls and folding partitions.

We supply, install, service and maintain MonoWall, MonoFold and MonoWave systems for education projects throughout the UK. To discuss your requirements or arrange a site survey, contact us today.

[CONTACT US](#)