



GOTTHARD-MÜLLER SCHOOL BERNHAUSEN

FILDERSTADT, GERMANY, 2016-2020

Client

Stadt Filderstadt

Architect

Behnisch Architekten, Stuttgart

Competition

2016, 1st prize

Planning and construction

2017 - 2020

Gross

9.498 m² / 102,237 sq.ft.

Volume

33.733 m³ / 1.8191.281 cu.ft.

Address

La Souterrainer Straße 9
70794 Filderstadt-Bernhausen
Germany

The new school campus in Filderstadt, south of Stuttgart, comprising the Gotthard-Müller School, and the neighboring Fleinsbach School, was created as an architectural upgrade to be adapted to the demands of the new pedagogical concept, which features a form of “all-day school care.” The new building for the Gotthard-Müller elementary and community school accommodates two parallel classes in each grade, as well as an extension area catering to the Fleinsbach junior high school and a cafeteria for general student use—all integrated into a single school campus. The new school building with its free-flowing, organic design is confidently positioned at the heart of a heterogeneous setting. The architectural concept envisioned the core idea of a vibrant school

campus that encourages teachers and students to work together. The building centers on the foyer, which acts as a meeting point and provides access to the cafeteria, the student library, classrooms for specific subjects, and rooms for teachers and school social workers. Twin entrance areas create a feeling of permeability, ensuring a clear connection to the space outside. Different school yards with planted areas, outdoor spaces that merge into one another, and the Agora—a sunken courtyard with steps that just invite you to take a seat—are designed as landscape features that will promote community and enhance the relationship between the two schools. The garden level opens up onto the Agora with a generous expanse of glazed areas. Inside the building



the open atrium is suffused with light and unifies the structure vertically. The elementary school is located on two stories in the northwest wing. In the southeast section, the community school occupies three stories for grades five through ten. The available space is organized into a variety of learning landscapes and open room structures that are designed to encourage communication, based on pedagogical theories about learning in an individualized, cooperative, and social manner. Classrooms, group rooms, and multipurpose rooms are combined in units, known as “learning houses.” Teachers can also maximize the sense of openness and transparency by holding classes in the adjoining access zones and in outside areas, which makes the entire building a

livelier place. Wraparound terraces provide direct outdoor access. The distinctive color schemes on the walls give the individual learning houses an unmistakable character that helps generate a specific sense of identity. Intense orange, yellow, green, and earthy hues create a vibrant and stimulating mood. Haptic, warm, and high-value materials such as linoleum, wood-based products, and acoustic ceiling materials convey a feeling of well-being. The facade is interpreted as furniture which can be utilized—for instance, as window seating. The external facade features both closed and transparent floor-to-ceiling sections. Perforated colored metal panels act as cladding and trace the curved form of the structure.

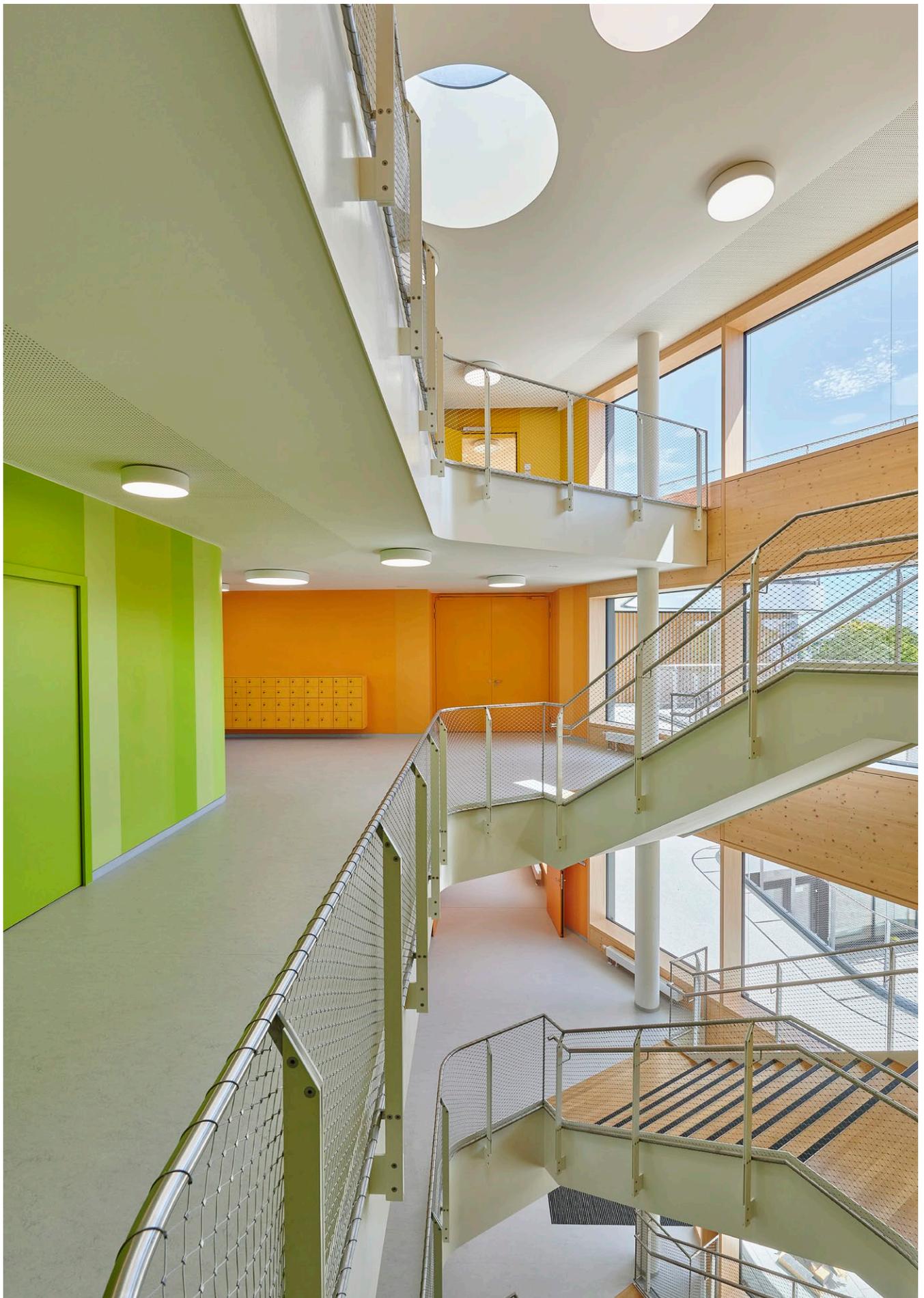


Site plan



Section







Floor plan level 1





Learning concept





Interior color concept