

# CURATED ASD DESIGN PRINCIPLES

## COLOUR

To accommodate the sensory sensitivities of those with ASD, a colour palette of earthy, neutral tones are applied throughout the design. However, to ensure that the space retains visually stimulating in some aspects for those who are hypo-sensitive, the colour palette includes a stronger accent colour of a warm orange to contrast the more natural tones.

## LIGHT

To create a functional yet accessible lighting arrangement to meet the sensory needs of those with ASD, the redesign includes wall mounted uplights, hanging pendants and recessed ceiling lighting. All lighting fixtures are to be fitted with dimmable LED bulbs to reduce any potentially disruptive glare or humming while also remaining adaptable to various sensory needs.

## MATERIALS

While accommodating those on the autism spectrum, in my redesign only natural and non-reflective materials have been included such as wood, frosted glass, linen, masonry, leather and cotton.

## ACOUSTICS

In order to make a space which limits potentially disturbing sounds such as traffic from nearby roads, weather, echoes, ventilation and all interior noises this ASD accessible redesign will include acoustic insulation with 100mm thickness. Acoustic considerations have also been taken in the use of sound absorbing 100% walnut wood flooring and 15mm thick glass between each zone to act as a sound barrier. On the roof, various moss and grass plants will be planted to not only improve the local environment but to also act as a sound absorbing barrier.

## VENTILATION

In order to cause minimal disturbance to ASD user's sensitive sense of hearing and smelling, the building will contain a passive ventilation system with vents throughout the building connected through louvre vents which release and gather air. This system could be used to cool the space through circulation and heat it through a solar heating system. Openable vents situated at the top of the buildings front windows will also

## PROPORTIONS

Proportions have been considered throughout the design to ensure that the space's width and depth in relation to its height sit at a comfortable level which causes the least possible visual disturbance while also taking potentially disruptive echoes into account. By inserting a false ceiling at 2800mm, there remains space to include necessary acoustic insulation and ventilation systems while still ensuring that the ceiling height does not feel either too short or tall.

## LAYOUT

While creating a new layout for the redesign it must be suitable for those with ASD, those not on the spectrum and people with other disabilities. To accommodate this, the redesign includes three distinct areas (the central till area, the cafe seating area and the retail area) which are all defined within its own walls to avoid any potential overstimulation or confusion. Within this, customer toilets are easily accessible from the central till area to ensure they are easily accessible for both grocery and cafe customers.

## WAYFINDING

Alongside an easy to interpret layout, it is important to consider implementing common wayfinding solutions to provide guidance to all customers, including those on the autism spectrum. These solutions have been introduced in the redesign through signage above and on all doors, clear doors and windows to provide a view of the whole building, different coloured walls to define each zone and thoughtfully placed furniture to help guide users seamless through each activity.



Central till area



Cafe seating area



Sample area



Retail area