

Press information

Concentration at the push of a button – Zumtobel supports learning with Active Light in the classroom

Lights, on – curiosity, go! Active Light accompanies teachers and students throughout the day at Herstedlund School in Denmark. It promotes concentration. Increases efficiency. And boosts relaxation. Zumtobel creates dynamic lighting moods in the classrooms that perfectly complement the particular teaching situation: invigorating, stimulating or relaxing. The Austrian lighting solutions supplier worked with the University of Aalborg and other selected partners to implement this advanced lighting concept at the school in the town of Albertslund.

Dornbirn, 7. March 2019 – The bell rings. Students at [Herstedlund Primary School](#) take their seats. There is a general rustling of paper. The exercise books are out and ready. The text books too. Fourth-year students wait for the beginning of the first lesson. Excitedly? Perhaps. Sleepily? Maybe just a bit. Then suddenly the teacher flicks the light switch and vibrant [Active Light](#) from [Zumtobel](#) immediately fills the entire space. And triggers attention, curiosity and a thirst for knowledge. Light floods the classroom. Light like daylight. Light that creates a pleasant learning atmosphere. Unobtrusive and balanced. Visual performance, visual comfort and the needs of pupils and teachers have all been taken into account. Now the learning can really begin.

After half an hour, the smart board is switched on. The teacher adjusts the light settings to help students concentrating on the smartboard. At the same time, good visibility of exercise books and materials at the student workspaces remains unaffected. The fourth-year classroom is one of three teaching spaces at the Herstedlund School that now uses Active Light for educational support, offering teachers a choice of four pre-programmed lighting moods. Dimmable round [ONDARIA 2](#) luminaires from Zumtobel create precisely the desired learning environment: timeless, natural, comfortable.

The lunch break is followed by the inevitable afternoon lull. Yet now teachers can use light to actively counteract student fatigue and increase attention. Stimulating cool-white light really brings the classroom to life, as an energetic lighting mood in line with the concept of Human Centric Lighting raises spirits and refreshes weary students.

A group exercise rounds off the school day for the fourth-year students. Slightly subdued warm-white light provides a relaxing ambience and gains top marks for supporting social interaction. Breaks and relaxation phases are also at their most effective when this cosy and informal lighting scenario is selected.

Researchers at the University of Aalborg developed the specific design criteria for the lighting moods in the classroom – and then Zumtobel turned these into a reality. Project partners also used the lighting infrastructure and [LITECOM](#) lighting management system to collect data on the use of light in the classrooms over a three-month period. The findings have now been brought together in a recently [published study](#), which certainly makes for interesting reading. In a nutshell: Active Light provides lighting scenarios that really support learning at the Herstedlund School. This approach also structures lessons and provides versatility and variety for staff and students throughout the day.

Teachers change the lighting mood three times a day on average. Seasonal daylight differences and the spatial arrangement of the classrooms, which face in different directions, all have an influence on the lighting conditions. “The internet-enabled and app-based lighting management system means that the four pre-programmed lighting scenarios can be easily controlled by the teachers,” explains Lybeck Casper, Sales Director of Zumtobel Group Denmark. “The scenario they choose for different situations is personal and teacher-specific.” The colour settings and light intensity of all the luminaires in the classroom are individually adjustable, while teachers can also define their own settings. This all supports the shared vision of the project partners: to make [Herstedlund a true role model for schools of the future](#).

Photo captions:

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Fig. 1a (3000K), b (6000K): After half an hour, the smart board is switched on. The teacher adjusts the light settings to help students concentrating on the smartboard. At the same time, good visibility of exercise books and materials at the student workspaces remains unaffected.



Fig. 2a (3000K), b (4000K), c (6000K): The lunch break is followed by the inevitable afternoon lull. Yet now teachers can use light to actively counteract student fatigue and increase attention. Stimulating cool-white light really brings the classroom to life.



a)



b)



c)

Fig. 3a (3000K), b (4000K), c (6000K): A group exercise rounds off the school day for the fourth-year students. Slightly subdued warm-white light provides a relaxing ambience and gains top marks for supporting social interaction. Breaks and relaxation phases are also at their most effective when this cosy and informal lighting scenario is selected.



a)



b)



c)

Fig. 4a (3000K), b (4000K), c (6000K): The published study shows that Active Light provides lighting scenarios really support learning at the Herstedlund School.

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About Zumtobel

We are passionate about designing and producing the highest quality of light. Our work is driven by the knowledge that the right light can create the right environment for people to thrive when tailored to their individual needs. Guided by a unique design approach, we continuously push our boundaries in search for perfection through unique and timeless design. As we develop the next generation of lighting, we build on our family heritage to refine the aesthetics of light and shape the lighting of tomorrow. With a special blend of passion, grace and avant-garde ideas, we turn light in to an experience and remain committed to the goal of improving the quality of life through light. Zumtobel is a brand of the Zumtobel Group AG with its headquarters in Dornbirn, Vorarlberg (Austria).

Zumtobel. The Light.