

INSTALLATION PROCESSES

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Evolution would like to take the opportunity to explain and run through the installation process of installing fire doors within schools and existing buildings of age.

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You may or may not have experienced this kind of works or indeed currently have Evolution or another company already working in your building installing doors?

We would like to use our experience to level everyone's expectations, to help them understand from a contractor's point of view how difficult it is to achieve a correct install into building of age and buildings that have altered from the original design install.

To help the client get through the process stages so they understand why they see unfinished works and to assure them that when we hand the doors over, they will look complete to an acceptable standard.

This process for the client isn't going to be easy and through the process it's going to look unfinished and not easy on the eye.

Several doors will need to be fitted before we then go back over them to complete decorations and snags, these doors will be fire compliant even without the architraves.

There are many variables that must be taken into consideration when doing this kind of works as listed below, this is before the door set is even installed.

Brittle aperture - Existing walls made of poor materials, these require reinforcement which takes some time to achieve.

Uneven floors - The 'Evolution Door' is made to include 10mm of hardwood lipping all around to allow the fitter to overcome uneven floors, this is referred to as 'Shooting In' this lipping can be planned down to a minimum of 3mm.

Unlevel walls - on some occasions we over size the depth of the door frame to overcome the issues relating to unlevel walls, The installers will be required to cut the frame down to overcome this, again, this process can take some time.

Glazed panels above the doors which are known as 'Fan Lights' - These are an old requirement installed into schools and buildings to allow light to be borrowed from room to room. In modern times we have LED lighting now, so these fans lights are surplus to requirements - Removing these require a fire stopping replacement which can be a 3-part process.

Glazed screens - Some schools and public buildings decide to remove these altogether, so the process is time consuming and requires replacement with a fire stopping material.

All the above bullet points can lengthen the install process and make works difficult for the installer especially on a night shift. These variables need to be overcome before the installer can proceed with the correct installation process.

FIRE DOOR INSTALLATION PROCESS

FRAME & DOOR SET INSTALLATION:

1. Once the door frame has been installed, the gap between the back of the frame and the aperture needs to be addressed and this depends on the depth of the gap. If the gap is a simple 10mm, then Intumescent sealant can be installed into this gap to achieve compliance. (Rare occasion)
2. If the gaps exceed 10mm then different rules apply, like installing fire rated plasterboard, mechanically fixed to the aperture to reduce the gap suitable for a mastic fill or building out the aperture with timber lined with fire rated plasterboard.
3. Once the gaps are packed correctly the door can be installed, Hinges and locks need to be cut into the doors on site, Levelling the gaps around the doors can take time.

FAN LIGHTS & VISION PANELS:

1. When working in shifts and organising processes to speed up the installation, it is easier for the install team to alter the fan light above the door in a separate process.
2. They may follow along after several doors have been installed so the setting up of tools is reduced.
3. You will notice the panel above only being boarded on one side. This is because a different team is required on site to install the fire stopping product for the door fitters, this product is known as PFC - CW
4. Once this fire stopping is installed then these areas are closed off.
5. Each panel above the door is safe from causing any harm, left in this state.

DECORATION AND MAKING GOOD:

1. Once several door sets have been installed and the fire stopping completed, the decoration can commence.
2. There will be requirements to preparation first using filler, easy fill, hard wall, or plaster.
3. Once the prep is completed the finishing coat will be applied
4. You will notice the 'Evolution Door' set is factory finished, this is to reduce the impact and amount of painting on site and to achieve a higher quality finish.

SNAGGING & SERVICING:

1. Throughout & at the end of each project or phase, a snag list is produced by our own QS/Surveyor
2. At the end of the project, we welcome the client to produce their own snag list, and, in most cases, each project is overseen by a contract administrator, in this case Barker Associates, who will do this for the client.
3. Once the project is completed, our in-house fire door inspector adds the identifier labels, uploads photos and information to our traceability software and our in-house team produce a full O&M manual with 'FIRAS' & IFC certificates of compliance for the school/trust's records.
4. Over time the mechanical closers will wear in and require adjustments, Doors may shrink or move, please note we have a service team to come back and adjust as necessary, this can be dealt with on appointment.

FIRE DOOR INSTALLATION PROCESS

THE PROCESS OVRVIEW:

1. Fire Door Installers install several doors.
2. The fire stopping team add PFC - CW or similar depending on the aperture (if applicable)
3. The decorators follow on to make good.
4. Our QS/Surveyor checks our doors and allows the fitters to correct anything before we hand each door over.
5. The CA signs off for the school or building owner.

TO BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION:

If the client requires each door set to be fully finished after the install stage, then this is possible, however the install time will increase by 75% and the cost will also increase on average of 50%.

Please note, removing old fire doors in buildings of age is a very difficult process and requires some time to get correct, add in the works taken place in a night shift can alter everything.

Sometimes the existing construction detail does not allow the new fire doors to meet compliance, if this is the case then we are required to contact 'Warrington Fire & BM Trada' to discuss our options. This is a very rare occurrence as our installers can spend time altering what they can to achieve compliance.

If you require any more information, please don't hesitate to contact us:

Email: info@evolution-bs.co.uk

Office: 01366 385603

Units 1-4 Gerald's Yard,
Horse Fair Close,
St John Business Estate,
Downham Market,
Norfolk,
PE38 0QQ