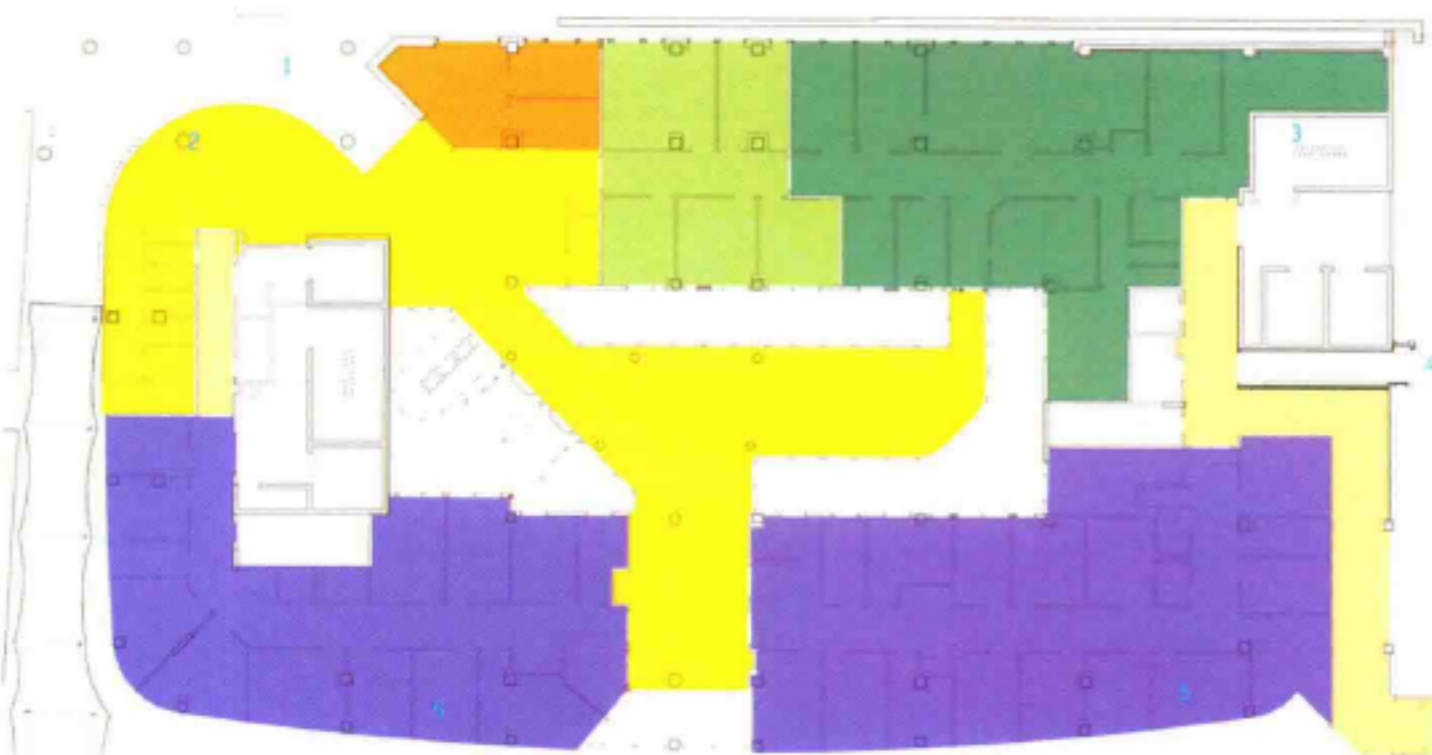




## Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital

The site was a very tight handkerchief of land wedged between two roads and a number of existing buildings. Planning constraints dictated a maximum height. The very steep hill overlooking the Channel was the location's great saving grace, affording a sunny panoramic sweep over the sea and historic Brighton. The introduction of an atrium at the heart of the hospital initially seemed unfeasible as it sacrificed a significant amount of area. Addressing this shortfall the designers generated the idea of bowing the building out as it grew upwards, which chimed nicely with the desirability of shallower plan spaces on the lower levels.

As the design began to take shape, it soon became known amongst the team as the "Children's Ark", an image that crystallised a number of important themes: from the idea of a "sustainable" community centred around the family to the nautical spirit of Brighton and the boat-like form of the building. With its soft, rounded corners and sheltering roof, it projected a reassuring and optimistic image, around which the designers could integrate all the elements of the brief in a coherent and appealing way that would resonate with children, families and staff. At the centre of the hospital, the atrium binds all levels together, ensures good day-lighting throughout the building and creates a strong sense of the whole, which is immediately perceived by anyone entering the Alex or moving up through it in the public lifts.



## 皇家亚力山德拉儿童医院

建筑所处地块呈现楔形，“夹”在两条公路与一系列建筑之间。特殊的条件限制了高度的延伸，而俯瞰海峡的优越位置则满足了视觉的享受。中庭的引入最初看起来似乎没有任何意义，又占据了大量的空间，基于这一点，设计师便构思了如下理念——随着高度的上升，建筑结构随之向外“扩张”。

当建筑逐步成形之后，便被誉为“儿童方舟”。这一设计蕴含了多重理念——民居中的“环保社区”，布赖顿的“地域特色”以及独特的“船形结构”。柔和的圆形墙角以及屋顶给人安全而又积极向上的感觉，所有的元素全部以流畅的方式融合，满足儿童、家人及工作人员的需求。中心处，心房将不同楼层连接起来，确保整幢建筑的光照，同时突出统一感。

1. 主入口
  2. 咖啡馆
  3. 楼梯
  4. 相邻的医院剧院楼
  5. 门诊部
1. main entrance
  2. café
  3. stairs
  4. adjoining main Hospital Theatre block
  5. outpatients department

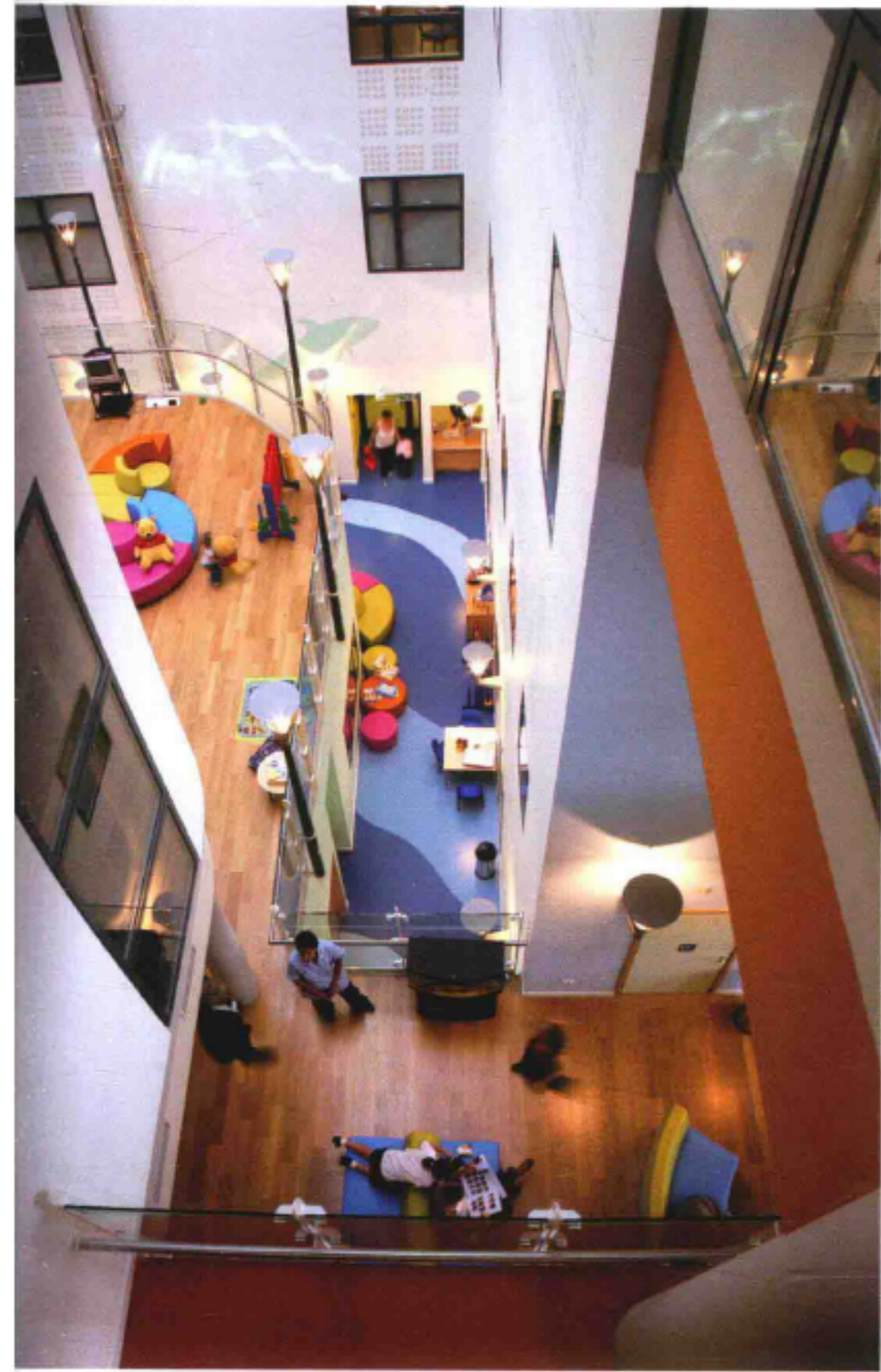


Photo: David Barbour

Architect: BDP

Hospital

Completion Date: 2007