

duncan house stratford, london

category PBSA/Residential
client Watkin Jones
apartments 44
study bedrooms 511
academic 13150 sqm
date 2019
awards + Best Tall Building Facade Engineering Project
Tall Building Awards 2020
+ Highly Commended Best Tall Building Architect
Tall Building Awards 2020

Our Duncan House scheme for Watkin Jones has now reached practical completion in Stratford, London. The mixed use development consists of 511 student bedrooms for the University of London in newly named Eleanor Rosa House and 45 residential apartments in Atelier Point; 22 of which are affordable, including 11 shared ownership apartments and 11 for social rent. The remaining 23 apartments are for sale on the open market. Uses also include affordable commercial space and education accommodation with functions distributed between a 31 storey tower and a podium base and arranged to avoid overlooking or privacy issues between

uses. This diverse range of accommodation creates a truly mixed use development, in what is a vibrant and active area of London.

The human scaled podium block defines the street edge and responds to the lower rise buildings surrounding the site. The podium's orthogonal arrangement within a trapezoidal shaped site allows a significant piece of public realm to be formed at the junction of High Street with Lett Road. A central private courtyard punctuates the podium allowing natural light and ventilation to the internal spaces, and in turn affords a calm respite at the heart of the development away from the intensity of its

surroundings. The podium rises incrementally to 9 storeys adjacent to the residences to the south of Ward Road, generating an architectural dialogue between buildings on both sides of the street. Private roof gardens / amenity spaces for students and residents are provided on the podium roof. The tower sits on the east corner of the podium, marking a gateway to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The cruciform arrangement of the tower fragments its architectural form, with the four wings stepping upwards in a spiral towards the pinnacle. The composition engages with its context, both near and far, whilst affording an elegant silhouette against the sky.

