Innovative architecture, technology and design are shaping the future of education, challenging the norms for those creating learning spaces more than ever before. Danish furniture manufacturers RBM by Flokk have embarked on a semester-long design project with students from ECAL/University of Art and Design Lausanne (Switzerland).

“What a great challenge for the students to collaborate with an important brand in order to create future experiences based on their experiences from the past! Back to school and to the future!” says Alexis Georgacopoulos, Director of ECAL.

Based around the title, The Future of School Seating, the 1st year Master Product Design students worked with course leader and designer Camille Blin, assisted by Margo Clavier, to explore alternatives to today’s traditional school chair, specifically for children aged 6–12.

“We tasked the students at ECAL to reimagine traditional school chairs and to design a product that fits seamlessly into the operating culture of future learning environments. We know that ways of teaching and learning are more diverse than ever before and we are excited to show off some great concepts from the ECAL 1st year Master Product Design students – the next generation of super talented designers,” explains Øystein Austad, Design Manager, RBM by Flokk.

Enjoy a fascinating glimpse into how young designers envision education spaces of the future!

www.ecal.ch
www.flokk.com/rbm
LittleHigh by ECAL/Hsin-Hung Chou

Studies show that the majority of students are uncomfortable using chairs. LittleHigh relies on an angularly mounted gas piston to proportionally change both the seat height and depth. Children from 6 to 12 years old can adjust the chair to their individual body sizes in one single operation.

Roundabout by ECAL/Jonas Villiger

Roundabout is a high table combined with an active stool that enhances learning and working in a standing position. The seat can be rotated around the table central pole in order to accommodate the different classroom situations. It is a concept for contemporary and future learning environments.

Connect by ECAL/Charlotta Åman

Tablets have become key learning tools in the contemporary classroom. When integrating these mobile devices, the required workspace is altered and reduced. Connect enhances the use of electronic devices and enables different furnishing scenarios while supporting the idea of a dynamic classroom.

TILT by ECAL/Julian Ribler

TILT is a children’s chair that combines a dynamic, ergonomic architecture with a playful form language. The plywood seat and backrest are mounted on an adaptable spine which provides a degree of adjustability. The gas piston base offers height adjustability and a 360-degree rotation. The result is a lightweight chair that encourages changes in posture and is a good support for dynamic sitting while meeting the needs of various educational scenarios.

Schulstuhl by ECAL/Alexander Schul

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Steady by ECAL/Oscar Kowog

Steady is a durable, lightweight and stackable chair with integrated storage. Defined by its construction in two nesting parts, its aim is to balance values of discipline and playfulness, encouraging a more holistic learning environment for children from 6 to 12 years old.

Tri Pli by ECAL/Silvio Rebholz

Tri Pli is a seat which offers children from 6 to 12 years old a variety of positions to work and play from on the floor. As an additional piece of furniture in the classroom, it fits in with the educational concept of free and self-determined learning in opening up the floor as a work surface.

Swivel by ECAL/Till Ronacher

Aesthetically speaking, Swivel uses the design codes of the classic school chair. Its unique character is based on the specific combination of its rotating ability and stackability. The seat and backrest allow for a 360-degree rotation to provide a new dynamic and flexibility in contemporary classroom environments.

LittleHigh by ECAL/Hsin-Hung Chou

LittleHigh chair serves the growing need and demand for alternating between sitting and standing studying positions for children aged between 6 and 8. Paired with a stand-up desk, LittleHigh enables children to either stand up at the desk or sit down in this high chair. LittleHigh chair is stackable and can be stored on top of classroom desks.

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