

Press release

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Bank day-care centre “Villa Wirbelwind” opens its doors

After 15 months of renovation work, the Villa Wirbelwind is opening its doors today, on schedule. The day-care centre will begin its function with the supervision of 25 children of parents from around half of Liechtenstein's banks. On 28 October, 2017, those interested can visit the Villa Wirbelwind on its open day.

The City of Vaduz, the Liechtenstein Bankers Association and the ArchitekturAtelier architectural firm can today, after 15 months of building, hand over the historical but highly modern day-care centre into the custody of the Association of Nurseries. Twenty-six Liechtenstein businesses have helped to ensure that the old English country house on Äulestrasse can be put to use on schedule after a complete renovation. ArchitekturAtelier in Vaduz was entrusted with the planning and supervision of the renovation and conversion work. The firm already has experience in the design of nursery schools and day-care centres. “We are pleased to have been given the opportunity to carry out this project,” says Claudia Salzgeber, architect at ArchitekturAtelier. “With the renovation of this historic villa we want to create a link between the characteristic country house style and a flexible, modern childcare facility at the crossroads of tradition and innovation. This gives the building a certain special charm.”

A model community project

The project incurred a total of CHF 1.9 Million in costs. As such, it could be realised within budget and on schedule. “For the municipal administration of Vaduz, the conversion of the mansion into a day-care centre represents a great gain,” says Mayor Ewald Ospelt. “The building in central Vaduz has stood vacant for quite some time. Today the old mansion has a new lustre about it and will be put to good use by the Bankers Association as a day-care centre. This was in no small part thanks to the dedication and outstanding work of all participating businesses including the excellent planning done by ArchitekturAtelier.”

The financing for the user-specific interior work, some CHF 400,000 in total, was covered by the Liechtenstein Bankers Association, who have leased the property at Äulestrasse 46 for use as a bank day-care centre for the next 15 years. With approximately 550 m² of usable space spread across four floors, the Villa Wirbelwind is designed for up to three groups of between ten and twelve children each. The centre will begin with a single group initially. Currently, the facility is due to supervise 25 children of employees of various Liechtenstein banks across several weeks. The Association of Nurseries has been entrusted with taking care of the children. “We have all really looked forward to the moment when the Villa Wirbelwind would finally open.

For a bankers association, a project such as this is somewhat atypical, which made it all the more enjoyable for us”, said Simon Tribelhorn, Director of the Bankers Association, representing the LBA member banks. “This project was close to the hearts of our members and all those involved in it and correspondingly the collaboration and dedication of all were outstanding. We are pleased that the Villa Wirbelwind will finally be filled with life. We are also really looking forward to the open day on 28 October, to which we are glad to invite all those who are interested”, Tribelhorn concluded.

Further information about the Villa Wirbelwind and its function can be found at: www.villa-wirbelwind.li

as well as information regarding the renovation project at:
<http://www.architektur-atelier.com>

"Villa Wirbelwind" in brief:

- Location: in the centre of Vaduz, at Äulestrasse 46, Vaduz
- Floor space: around 550 m²
- Total number of supervised children: 25
- Operator of "Villa Wirbelwind": Liechtenstein Bankers Association (LBA)
- Sponsoring organisation: Association of Nurseries in Liechtenstein
- Building owner: municipality of Vaduz
- Total investment and renovation costs: CHF 2.3 Million
- Planning and redevelopment: ArchitekturAtelier
- Building time: 15 months
- Opening: 14 September 2017
- Open day 28 October 2017

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