



---

# Barking Abbey School Olympics

---

> Case Study



*Barking Abbey School is a specialist sports and humanities college with around 2,000 pupils and over 600 Sixth Formers. Named State School of the Year in 2010 by School Sports Magazine and National Sports College of the Year in 2011 by the Daily Telegraph, the school is renowned for its exceptional sports facilities, including a large leisure centre, built in 1997 after a £2.1 million grant.*

## > AN OLYMPIC CHALLENGE

The school was chosen as a Games Time Training Venue for the London 2012 Olympics, selected to host basketball teams making their final preparations to compete. As one of 25 venues across the country to undergo major refurbishment before the event, the school was seeking to improve their cleaning performance as a part of their effort to bring the facilities up to Olympic standards.

The school required a solution to cleaning the basketball courts that would leave the floors not only perfectly clean, but also dry, with no danger of causing slip accidents to the world-class athletes that would be using the facilities. For this reason, large applications of water and chemical were forbidden when cleaning this area.

Contract cleaners Power Hygiene and Supplies Ltd had already rejected several other methods of cleaning the floors that did not adequately meet the requirements.

Rotary floor cleaning machines had already been trialled on the surface but:

- > The wheels of floor cleaning machines marked the court, leaving unsightly scuffs and scratches;
- > The manoeuvrability of machines was badly affected by the finish of the floor, impairing cleaning effectiveness and potentially causing risk to operators;
- > Rotary cleaning pads were too abrasive, and removed court markings whilst cleaning.

SYR's TechTeam demonstrated two floor cleaning systems - Rapid Mop, a lightweight spray mopping system, and the LTS Evolve, an innovative bucket and wringer mopping combo usable with both traditional Kentucky-style mops and flat mops. The latter was paired with SYR's exclusive SYRSorb mops, made from a high quality synthetic, non-woven fibre, designed to be non-rotting and highly absorbent for the ultimate in hygiene performance.

The Rapid Mop in particular was found in trials to be highly effective in cleaning the basketball court floors. With its internal water reservoir, triple spray jets and high quality microfibre cleaning pads, the Rapid Mop offers controllable moisture when in use, using only enough water as needed, the flat mop used damp rather than wet.

The Rapid Mop proved able to remove even the toughest of rubber scuffs and stains, without impacting the sensitive non-slip surface of the basketball courts. The school was particularly impressed by the lack of moisture left on the floor surface after cleaning with the Rapid Mop, ensuring maximum safety from slip injuries of all those who would be using the facilities.

The systems were purchased for use on the courts and other areas of the leisure centre.

“

**It is absolutely ideal for minimum moisture, I'm impressed with how dry that floor is.**”

**DAVID GLADDEN - ESTATE MANAGER**



## Contact Us

---

[syrclean.com](http://syrclean.com)

---

Lye By-Pass, West Midlands,  
United Kingdom, DY9 8HG

---

[contact@syrclean.com](mailto:contact@syrclean.com)

---

+44 (0)1384 421421