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UP IN THE ROOF

> When it comes to loft conversions, Soundhouse are on top of things

Soundhouse are one of the companies that have appeared in the pages of Latest Homes regularly over the years. Each time we go to see a home that they have been working on we cannot fail to be impressed. But it's not only the quality of the work that impresses, it's also the quality of the service that their clients repeatedly tell us about – in detail!

This time we went to the home of Natasha and Lee Jasper and their three young sons. It's six years since they moved into their impressive double fronted villa with spectacular views east across the city to the expansive greenery of Preston Park.

“ They were incredibly helpful at every stage, handling all the planning issues and design work for us ”

Back then the house was oddly divided into two flats and although the couple knew that the logical thing to do when restoring and renovating a house was to start at the top, they made it a priority to start with new bathrooms and a kitchen. Although they were already set on converting the loft space they wanted a comfortable home to live in while that work was undertaken.

Once the house was in excellent order, and it is, they set

about finding a building contractor who specialised in loft conversion, being a double fronted property this was going to be a big job. They looked in all of the obvious places and had looked around the city at major loft projects in progress. One name that kept on coming up was Soundhouse. It was the same when they asked around friends, neighbours and colleagues – Soundhouse was on everyone's lips. Luckily enough they also knew people who had employed the company before and were able to take a look at the work they had done. Needless to say they were impressed and awarded them the contract.

Now the work is done and we have been to meet Natasha to talk through her experience and see the finished work.

First impressions are important, and as before they are good. The transition from the existing floors into what was the loft is not only seamless, it looks like it has always been there. The attention to detail is incredible, spills and bannisters are a perfect match, as if they are the same age as the house. On the way up they have added a huge west facing window that fills the space with beautiful light that will be there until the sun goes down every evening.

Once at the top of that new flight of stairs the space has been beautifully divided to create not only a stunning master bedroom and bathroom but also a large home office with great views across their garden for Natasha. "When we first started

to think about how we wanted the space to be used we had visions of a large bedroom, a dressing room and a massive bathroom. But when it came to the actual design Soundhouse came up with some alternative ideas that we not only liked but also made real sense. Original thoughts would have given us spaces that really would not be utilised, now we have three beautiful rooms that really do use the space to its best advantage as well as looking beautiful."

It really does look beautiful, the main bedroom space is L shaped with the bed under two huge windows that give great views across to the park and in the return is a beautifully configured dressing area with large wardrobes that sit perfectly within the period and style of the property and a large window that overlooks the garden. The bathroom is big too with a stylish freestanding bath and a large walk in shower too, and again those stunning views.

So was it worth the wait and the disruption? "More than worth it, and as for disruption we hardly had any. Soundhouse are the cleanest builders that we have ever used and we have used many. They are also a really nice bunch of people to have around, so much so that once they had finished and gone we really missed them being around. I was fascinated by the work too, always wanting to put on a hard hat and take a look at the progress, especially the installation of the 16 steels that were required in the construction. And in doing that I was also able to see the quality of the structural work that would eventually be covered up – and it was immaculate, so precise and clean.

"They were incredibly helpful at every stage, handling all the planning issues and design work for us, finding and advising us on the fixtures and fittings that we wanted, especially when it came to tiles and tiling. They were brilliant at sourcing exactly what we wanted and the finished result is brilliant."

And brilliant it is, really beautiful in both design and finish – but how did they do in terms of timings and budget? "That was brilliant too, the job was completed absolutely on schedule, not a day late. It was the same with the budget too, everything that we had contracted them to do came in bang on price. Any extras that we added at a later time



of course cost a little more, but that was our own decision."

So once again we hear that Soundhouse deliver a quality service in every sense of the word and another family is delighted with the work that they have undertaken, the whole process and of course the price. Job done? Job done well!

www.sound-house.co.uk

07771 550194

sound.house@btinternet.com

