

Case Study - Project Management

Blackwell First School, Bromsgrove



THE BRIEF

This was a Worcestershire County Council funded development to expand the original Victorian First School at Blackwell and turn the school into a one-form entry first school i.e. doubling the intake of the school from 15 new pupils each year to 30.

This required the demolition of mobile classrooms, building of three new classrooms and the extension of one existing classroom. The new extension would also include a new library, head teacher's office, school office and associated toilets.

The build would also include a new play area and a 12-space car park on the school field, which is located along the main road and was an essential component in reducing the congestion outside the school at the start and finish of the school day.

In addition to the new build, internal alterations were carried out during the summer of 2015 to enlarge an existing classroom and create a new rear access by remodelling the staff room.



OUR APPROACH

As the Project Management team, we managed the planning process and spoke at the planning committee meeting at County Hall.

We managed the project risks, timescales and overall costs, dealt with initial the translation of the brief into procurement documents, the appointment of the Project Designers and the Main Contractor (Stepnell) and the liaison with both the school and Worcestershire County Council.

There were a number of challenges during the project, particularly in dealing with a very compact live school site and a number of residential neighbours abounding the site.

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RESULTS

Work commenced on 29th June 2015, with a phased approach seeing the extension to the school completed on schedule for 11th April 2016 and the remaining external works where the mobile classrooms were removed, completed on 27th April 2016.

The original budget of £1,320,436 was exceeded by £20,000, but this additional money was sourced through another funding programme as the work on site included new boilers for the old part of the school.



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Our Project Management services include:

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