



Partneriaeth Adeiladu
Gogledd Cymru
North Wales
Construction Partnership

Case Study

Client

Wrexham County Borough Council

Project

Barkers Lane School, Wrexham

Project Value

£1.6m

Contractor

Read Construction

Start and Completion Date

January 2021 – November 2021

Sector

Education

Form of Contract

JCT D&B 2016

Delivery Type

Design and Build



“Read have been very approachable, helpful and open-minded to our requests and quick to explain what is happening. All the contractors I have dealt with on site have been professional and understanding of the school and our requirements.

- Simon Hill, Business Manager



THE PROJECT

This design and build project included the extension of the existing school facility to provide additional learning space, a new nursery facility and increased classroom capacity to facilitate an increase in pupils from 210 to 315.

During the construction phase, our site team worked around live curriculum areas, allowing for full functionality of the school. Read ensured that all our staff and sub-contractors received the appropriate safeguarding training and inductions to ensure minimal disruption to the ongoing curriculum delivery throughout the construction period.



Due to the residential location, building and maintaining positive relationships with the neighbours was a critical success factor. Read site manager, Lee Bell, regularly engaged with the community to alleviate any concerns through an ‘open door’ policy. This was supplemented with a dedicated Facebook page, where project updates were shared to communicate relevant site news and promote engagement.



KEY OUTCOMES



- *4 placements provided*
- *4 jobs created*
- *4 careers information, advice and guidance events*
- *84 training weeks*
- *42 training courses completed*
- *6 training plans*
- *Above achievements represent ALL social value KPIs either met or overachieved*

HOW PROJECT SUPPORTED HEALTHY, RESILIENT AND COHESIVE COMMUNITIES

Supporting Careers Events

Despite the ongoing pandemic and lockdown restrictions, Read sought alternative ways of working to ensure we continue to achieve targets and maximise benefit for the local community. By working closely with other NWCP contractors, local colleges, careers services and end users we developed a new way of working which ensures end users, clients and the community receive the same level of service in a COVID safe manner.

To ensure the school children understood the importance of safety around the construction site, we delivered our usual health and safety talk virtually – including the setting a ‘safety poster competition’ to encourage pupil’s participation with the build.

Read hosted a number of site visits for pupils and staff. The site visits afforded pupils the opportunity to gain an insight into the construction industry, as well as supporting their transition into their new facilities through familiarisation.



The children have loved seeing some of the construction in action and are already enjoying one of their new play areas. Children deserve the very best opportunities and the enhanced provision will help us ensure this continues for the future. The development is exciting for both children and staff.

- Chris Harrison-Edwards, Headteacher

