

Lincolnshire Schools

Lincolnshire UK

Completion

2006

Client

Focus Education (Lincolnshire)

Value

20 GBP million

Role

- Two Stage Design and Build Lump Sum
- PFI/PPP
- Day to day upkeep of the schools is provided by Vita Lend Lease under the terms of the 25-year Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract.

Highlights

- First PFI schools project for Bovis Lend Lease
- User-friendly designs aid orientation
- Specialist information communications technology for pupils' and community use.

Working on the premise that the pupils' reaction to their school can influence their learning, Bovis Lend Lease set out to provide a fresh and friendly style of schooling with this £20 million Private Finance Initiative (PFI) project for Lincolnshire County Council.

The contract called for the construction of seven new schools, accommodating up to 1 100 pupils, ranging in age from five to 16. Four of these schools are for pupils with emotional and behavioural difficulties and one, in Sleaford, is an ICT (Information Communications Technology) specialist primary school – one of the first in the UK.

Scope

All the schools are equipped to provide computer learning and the specialist ICT primary is built and fitted to enable information technology to be at the heart of every lesson. These ICT rooms are also available to the community at large after school hours. OFSTED (Office for Standards in Education) inspectors have commented on the success of this school in providing ICT skills training.



Design Challenges and Innovation

The project architects were Watkins Grey International and their brief was to design schools that are reassuring to pupils, teachers and parents alike. With each of the schools the aim was to provide easy access via clearly defined and signed routes and main entrances that are located in prominent positions, both to the buildings themselves and the sites they occupy.

Another design element intended to make the schools more user-friendly is the inclusion of large windows at regular intervals on long corridors. These provide views of the outside world that improve orientation and remind people where they are in relation to the rest of the building. Adding to this sense of reassurance is a secure environment with robust boundary fencing or walls, CCTV and electronic door locking systems.

Primary Service

Two Stage Design and Build Lump Sum

Secondary Service

PFI/PPP

Primary Sector

Education.