

Name of Project:
Harrow Schools PFI

Client:
The Mill Group

Architect:
Nicholas Hare

Engineer:
Waterman Partnership

M&E Consultant:
Lorne Stewart Plc

Contract Value:
£13.6m

Contract Period:
September 2003 to February 2006

Contract Type:
Non-equity PFI

Main Contractor:
Carillion Building



The construction of two special needs schools and refurbishment of an existing mainstream school in the North London Borough of Harrow. Carillion is acting as design & construct contractor for the 'Investors in the Community' consortium, led by the Mill Group.

The project is based on two existing separate school sites and will involve the phased decanting, demolition and refurbishment of the sites to provide new facilities.

The design was developed following wide consultation with many interested bodies such as the RNIB and other special schools around the country. It is expected that once complete the schools will become the benchmark for all future special needs schools.

Both new schools are around 2,500 sq m with classrooms designed to comfortably hold eight pupils and four teachers. Features include hydrotherapy pools, extensive landscaping, production kitchens and all fixtures, furniture and fit-out.

The schools include lots of natural light and are very airy and spacious with natural ventilation and under floor heating. The rooms have a high acoustic rating to ensure low levels of sound transmission and echoes.

The schools are designed to be robust, good quality, and built to high specifications using tried and tested techniques. The gardens are fully landscaped and include a water feature.

Phases One and Two were both completed on schedule, and the decant process was managed professionally and efficiently. The teachers are delighted with the new facilities and both CABA and the DfES have given Woodlands School (Phase One) favourable reviews.

Harrow Schools PFI is Carillion's second contract for the Mill Group, having previously completed the Hackney Technology and Learning Centre, which won the prestigious 2002 PFI Award for Best Accommodation / Property Project.