

Abercynon Community Primary School



Client: Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

Facilities: 420 place Community Primary School

Completed: August 2013

Cost: £7.1m



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Key Facts

- Abercynon Community Primary is designed to replace four existing Infant / Junior Schools.
- The scheme included the provision of a new public library and community centre.
- BREEAM Excellent and EPC A rated requirements.
- The site included a Grade II Listed War memorial that required protection and access during the works.
- Innovative and cost effective process adopted for Invasive Species Management.
- Delivered through the SEWSCAP Framework.

Introduction

The scheme entails the provision of a new 420 place plus SEN provision Community Primary School; together with associated access road, vehicle parking with hard and soft play areas and landscaping. The scheme also includes the provision of a new Public Library and Community Centre.

The new school was required to replace the existing Carnetown, Abercynon and Abertaf infant and junior schools. The new school is located on the site of the current Abercynon Infants in the centre of the village of Abercynon.

The site has a number of restrictions including: overhead cables to the entrance, low bridge adjacent to the site, one-way traffic to the entrance, an adjacent railway line and former chapel remains within the site. In addition, invasive plant species and bats were identified within the boundary of the site.

The works included the demolition and removal of the existing infant school and existing community education facilities.

Also on site is an existing Grade II listed clock/war memorial which is to be retained and become the focus of a new high-quality public space within Abercynon.



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Project Successes

BREEAM A and EPC A
 £1.92 achieved for Welsh Local Multiplier
 85% of subcontract orders delivered locally
 Innovative invasive species management regime adopted
 87% of waste diverted from landfill

Construction Information

The construction of the new school consists of a two-storey structure with a supporting retaining wall which spans the structure along the rear of the building.

The building fabric includes a steel frame with SFS external walls with a blockwork and render finish. The school is heated using a biomass boiler with under-floor heating. The scheme is designed with natural lighting and ventilation systems. The school has a 'state of the art' efficient kitchen and a sports hall with changing facility. The school also includes a public library and community rooms.

The external works consist of car-parking, gabion retaining wall, MUGA sport pitch, amphitheater and hard and soft play areas.

Testimonials

"The benefits of this new, inspirational school are enormous and will have a positive, lasting effect on the communities which it serves. This is a modern, sustainable and environmentally-friendly school that is of high quality and children educated in such surroundings can achieve and realise their potential. Yet it is much more than a school, it is also a hugely significant project for the entire community, bringing together people of all ages to attend classes, or use the modern library facilities. This has been an ambitious and important scheme that delivers an excellent 21st Century learning environment for the locality"

Cllr Eudine Hanagan, RCT Cabinet Member for Education, Lifelong Skills and Learning



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