

Skanska to develop six schools in Bristol totalling £100 million

Skanska has been awarded contracts for the construction of six schools in Bristol, as part of the national Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. The contracts amount to a total of around £100 million. The schools are being built for Bristol City Council through the Bristol Local Education Partnership, which was developed in 2005 for a ten-year period to design, construct and refurbish schools in the Bristol area as part of the Government's BSF programme. This latest award follows the successful completion of four new schools by Skanska in Bristol under the UK's first BSF scheme where Skanska is currently undertaking the operation and maintenance phase.

Under these new contracts, Skanska UK will design, construct and refurbish five secondary schools and a special needs school across the Bristol area: Ashton Park School, Cotham School, St Bede's Catholic College, St Bernadette School, St. Mary Redcliffe & Temple School and Florence Brown Community School. The total of new build facilities across the six schools which provide education facilities for a total of 6000 students is 29,000 square metres. In addition 13,000 square meters of existing facilities at the schools will be refurbished.

Work has commenced on all projects and completion of the schools will be carried out in a phased programme between 2010 and 2011, with the final school, St Mary Redcliffe, set for completion in 2011.

Details on the School Projects:

Ashton Park School - a secondary school serving South-west Bristol – a Centre for Excellence in Sport. In a phased project, some students and staff will move into temporary accommodation while 50-year-old teaching blocks are demolished to make way for a new three-storey block with rooms specially designed for art and science. There will also be linkage between the new and existing buildings to provide better communication across the site.

Cotham School - a secondary school serving North Bristol – a Specialist Performing Arts College. The redevelopment will be in stages and provide a new block for art, design & technology and science. It also involves refurbishing the existing 1930s grammar school building described as "architecturally important".

St Bede's Catholic College - a secondary school serving North-west Bristol – a Specialist School for Science and Sport. An existing sports hall and buildings for design & technology and music will be demolished and replaced by a new sports hall with changing rooms and a two-storey

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building for design & technology, art, music and drama. An existing science block will be refurbished and a new science laboratory added. In addition, some classrooms and the library will be refurbished.

St Bernadette School - a Catholic secondary school serving South Bristol – a Specialist School for Maths and Computing. Existing temporary buildings will be removed and an old drama studio demolished. A new two-storey building will provide facilities for art, drama and music, including a recording studio. An existing building will be refurbished and turned into a new science block, bringing together the elements of this faculty. A new Learning Resource Centre will be built adjoining the existing ICT area, and a new dining area opening onto an outdoor dining space will be created.

St. Mary Redcliffe & Temple School - a Church of England Voluntary Aided secondary school serving central Bristol – a Humanities Specialist School. The main school block dating from the 1960s will be demolished. A new teaching block on four levels will be built to wrap around existing buildings, with a covered street linking the existing buildings with the new. Much-needed new sports facilities will be created including an all-weather pitch.

Florence Brown Community School - New building and extension of a special needs school for students aged five to 16 from across the Bristol area. The development will provide a new single-storey building with a hydrotherapy pool and sports hall, and also vocational training facilities and external sports facilities.

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