

CREATING AND CARING FOR INSPIRATIONAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

ROTHERHAM

Transform Schools (Rotherham) is the concession company awarded the 31 year contract to design and build 15 schools in Rotherham and to provide hard and soft facilities management services to the sites. The project reached Financial Close in June 2003.

Balfour Beatty's shareholding is 50%. Our 50% stakeholder partner is Innisfree PFI Fund 2. The committed investment total is £5 million, which will be injected after completion of construction in 2006.

Transform
schools

Capex	£93 million
Pupils	10,890
Facilities	15 new schools
TUPE transfers	23 caretaking staff
Financing type	Private Placement

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Construction of:
 - nine new secondary schools;
 - six new primary schools.
- The hard and soft facilities management services have been sub-contracted to Balfour Beatty WorkPlace, the Balfour Beatty Group facilities management company.
- The construction phase was completed on time and on budget by September 2006.
- At the time the contract was signed it was the largest community schools initiative of its type, incorporating grant aided youth, Life Long Learning and Sure Start facilities.

CREATIVE SPACES, WATH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

The aim of this project was to brighten up a large area of grey concrete wall facing the Young People's Centre at the school. A further goal was to encourage local young people to join in the activities at the centre.

The pupils of Wath Comprehensive School were responsible for the design and creation of the mural, and took their responsibility seriously. Their profile was raised as a result of the project, and they were praised for the improvements that they had made to the area. The pupils also learned valuable lessons about health and safety in the workplace and included this in their documentary video.

The pupils benefited from the input of a professional artist and from working as a small, focused group. The school environment was improved by the creation of an original artwork which creates a much more attractive approach to the Young People's Centre.

The pupils who created this mural have been encouraged to share their experience on the project with fellow pupils, to ensure that the artwork is respected and appreciated. They were also invited to speak at the assembly of one of the feeder primary schools to explain the project. Prior to working with the artist these pupils were disengaged from many lessons, but various members of staff have commented that they became more attentive and contributed more in lessons.

The project has since been replicated at other schools.



*"The teachers want to be here, the children want to be here, the children want to learn. **The attainment will go up, I know it will.**"*

Vicky Whitehead, Chair of Governors, Thornhill Primary