

New SEN Special School



Secondary+6th Form

£5.5 Million

12 month JCT Contract

2017-2018.



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Site Feasibility

Grayling Thomas have been working with Dorothy Goodman School since 2015 on the redevelopment of their campus to include a new school site to cater for an expansion of pupils and condition issues with their existing buildings.

The new site had expansive views across open fields and Grayling Thomas were keen to retain this natural feature in the design of the building. The largely glazed new classrooms face South towards the open fields enabling students to directly access this feature. To the rear of the Classrooms are Specialist Rooms for Science, Art and Foodtech and these spaces have feature roof funnels to bring natural daylight deep into the building. In addition the building has an internal Sensory Courtyard to naturally light the wide corridor spaces.



CIF Funding Bid

A successful CIF bid was issued and received in 2016 for £3.5m for the creation of 6 classrooms, a new school hall, a studio hall, administration spaces, sensory and multi-sensory areas, kitchen facilities and WCs.

A second CIF bid was issued in 2017 and this successfully delivered an additional 4 classrooms, 3 specialist teaching areas including art, food tech and science, additional administration areas and group study rooms, a library, entrance lobby and school office, additional WCs and showering areas.

A third CIF bid was submitted in 2018 for the installation of a sprinkler system and this was successfully received and incorporated into the project throughout all areas of the school.



Design and Construction

Grayling Thomas have maintained a close working relationship with the school Business Manager and Headteacher throughout all phases of Construction and Design and this has resulted in a unique and bespoke Special Needs School on a new site. The existing facilities were considered not fit for purpose and the new facilities are expansive, have exceeded the school's expectations and extremely well received by the local community.

" Working with Andrew Thomas as our Architect on a new school, we found he listened to our needs, designing a building that was both creative in addressing our needs and maximising the light into the building "

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