

News

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Morgan Sindall appointed to £40 million Southwark schools programme

Morgan Sindall has been appointed, initially in preconstruction services, to a major package of works to construct and upgrade six schools for the London Borough of Southwark - creating over 1,155 new primary school places across the borough.

The contracts, with a total value of £40 million, will be to remodel four existing schools and deliver two new builds. The work was procured directly by the council through the iESE (Improvement and Efficiency South East) framework. The £1 billion framework is one of the main public sector construction frameworks in London and the South East for the education and health sectors. Morgan Sindall will be working at Albion Primary School, Charles Dickens Primary School, Grange Primary School, Bellenden Primary School, Robert Browning Primary School and Belham Free School. The school expansion scheme will enable the borough to cope with rising demand for primary school places.

Councillor Victoria Mills, cabinet member for children and education, said: "Southwark Council is making an unprecedented investment in our primary schools with more than £100 million earmarked for expansion and new buildings at popular and oversubscribed schools. The scale of this programme matches the scale of our ambition that every child in Southwark should get the very best education in an outstanding setting."

Richard Dobson, Morgan Sindall area director for London, said: "We're extremely pleased to have been appointed to this significant programme of works. Southwark is an aspirational borough, which is experiencing significant economic growth and as a result has one of London's fastest expanding demographics.

"The expansion of this young, ambitious population is driving the need for more primary school places in Southwark. This school expansion programme will help to address this demand and provide first class facilities for children in the borough. Morgan Sindall has extensive experience in the education sector and we're looking forward to utilising this knowledge in bringing these projects forward."

The new build projects include a scheme to construct a new building for Albion Primary School. The two-storey development on Albion Road will feature high-quality teaching and learning space and will enable the school to become a two form entry primary school, accommodating 420 pupils (an additional 210 pupils above its existing capacity). The new school will also feature indoor and outdoor playing and learning areas, including a roof garden.

Morgan Sindall will also be constructing a new building to house Bellenden Primary School in Reedham Street in Southwark. The new development will allow the school to expand to accommodate an additional 210 pupils.

Meanwhile, under the programme of expansion works, the Morgan Sindall team will be remodelling and upgrading four further Southwark schools. Charles Dickens Primary School will be upgraded and extended to become a two form entry school, allowing it to grow intake by 105 pupils. Robert Browning Primary School in Walworth will undergo an upgrade and expansion which will see the school grow to two form entry, accommodating an additional 105 pupils. Grange Primary School on

Webb Street will also be remodelled and expanded to allow it to accommodate an additional 105 pupils.

Morgan Sindall will also be refurbishing the site of the Old Bellenden School in Bellenden Road. Once complete, the new Belham Free School will be based in the refurbished building. The project will involve the restoration of the existing Victorian school building for use by a new generation of children. The new school will accommodate 420 pupils.

All six projects are due to start on site in spring 2015 and are due to complete in time for the start of the academic year in 2016. The logistics of each build project have been planned to minimise disruption to staff and pupils.

For more information about this news release please contact Ruth Cobban at Influential on 0151 239 5000 or email cobban@thisisinfluential.com