

News

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Morgan Sindall celebrates key milestone at £15.4 million Essex school

Morgan Sindall is celebrating reaching a key milestone in the construction of Glenwood School, a £15.4 million special educational needs school in Essex.

The state-of-the-art education facility is being delivered for Essex County Council and will provide support for 210 children and young adults with severe (and multiple) learning difficulties.

Castle Point Mayor, Andrew Sheldon and Cllr Ray Gooding, Essex County Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning, joined the Morgan Sindall project team at the Glenwood site to celebrate the start of the building's timber frame structure.

Once completed in 2017, the new building will feature 26 spacious classrooms, a hydrotherapy pool and specialist facilities to help meet the young people's sensory needs, including swing therapy rooms and a trampoline room to help promote body awareness, sequencing space, postural control and organisation of the senses.

The Morgan Sindall project team will also deliver an independent living area within the school, which will help older students prepare for adulthood, and an immersive room that uses projection imagery to simulate a range of environments.

The new building will also include music rooms and design technology facilities to encourage creativity, and various vocational bases including soft play rooms and two hall spaces for group activities. The Morgan Sindall project team will also deliver external works, including outdoor play areas and a car park for 110 vehicles.

Judith Salter, Headteacher at Glenwood School, said: "We are all very excited about the new building. It is very important to us that the new school feels as warm, welcoming, safe and unique as the current one.

"The new facilities will enable us to be even more creative in the ways we can engage our young people in their individual next steps of learning."

Cllr Ray Gooding, said: "The expansion of Glenwood School had been discussed for quite some time before plans were approved in January and I am very pleased to see the project underway and progressing so well.

"We are committed to ensuring all pupils in Essex receive the best possible education and the county's schools are equipped to meet their pupils' individual needs.

"The relocation and expansion of this outstanding school will make a huge difference to the learning of its pupils, as well as helping meet the growing demand for special school places in south Essex."

Gavin Napper, area director at Morgan Sindall, said: "We're very pleased to be celebrating this key milestone at Glenwood School. The project team is committed to delivering a truly inspirational space where young people with special educational needs can really enjoy learning and feel safe and secure. The school includes a number of outstanding facilities and will provide the very best support and learning opportunities for those individuals."

Work at Glenwood School is a continuation of Morgan Sindall's successful relationship with Essex County Council. The firm recently completed a £5.8 million project to rebuild John Ray Infant and Junior School after the building was destroyed by fire in 2013. The new school includes 12 spacious classrooms, a library, an assembly hall with adjoining kitchen, a smaller hall and an ICT room. The project also included an extension to the existing junior school which increased its capacity by 30 pupils per year group.

For more information about this news release please contact Niamh Conway at Influential on 0151 239 5000 or email conway@thisisinfluential.com