

# News

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## **Morgan Sindall completes £4.1 million primary school expansion**

Morgan Sindall has completed a £4.1 million expansion at Queens Hill Primary School in Norfolk.

The project, which was delivered for Norfolk County Council, included a 10-classroom extension and has enabled the school to nearly double its intake.

The completion was marked with the construction of a special 'aspiration tree'; a unique tree-like sculpture that encapsulates all the careers and trades involved in the project.

The tree is made up of a number of elements to represent each stage of the construction process including electrical wiring, copper piping, scaffolding components, brick wall ties and windowsill brackets.

The Morgan Sindall project team designed the sculpture with the hope of creating a lasting legacy at the school. Pupils are able to add their own leaves to the tree with specially designed fixings so that the tree can grow with the school.

Penny Sheppard, head teacher at Queens Hill Primary School, said: "The extension has been instrumental in what the school can deliver – we can now provide local school places for our growing community and we believe we now have some of the best facilities available in primary education.

"Everyone who has visited has said how beautiful and inspiring the new facility is, and I think that's down to the time and consideration taken by the whole team. No one can tell where the old school finishes and the extension begins, and that itself is a great achievement.

"Many of our children live in the Queens Hills community, which has been built from scratch, and they have experienced construction – near their homes and at school.

"At school they've been able to see the enormous range of skills, expertise and teamwork that's goes into bringing a fantastic project like this to fruition.

"So when Morgan Sindall asked me what kind of legacy they could leave when they finished, I asked if they could find a way of visually representing these skills; something that our children could interact with; remind them how rewarding a career using these skills can be and perhaps even inspire them to consider how they could one day be involved in creating important new buildings when they are grown up.

"The aspiration tree is so original, has completely surpassed our expectations and the children are absolutely delighted. We've given it pride of place in the entrance area so that everyone who comes to the school has a chance to enjoy it, too."

The project at Queens Hill Primary has been funded as part of Norfolk County Council's ongoing programme to create more school places, better education facilities and, where possible, 'all-through' primary schools across the county.

Saul Humphrey, managing director of Morgan Sindall's East Anglia business, said: "The aspiration tree at Queens Hill Primary School is a fantastic sculpture and a great testament to the partnership

between Norfolk County Council, Queens Hill Primary School and the Morgan Sindall project team, which has been fostered during this build.

“We’re so pleased to have delivered this important scheme which will allow Queens Hill Primary School to double its intake and we look forward to seeing the sculpture grow as more children join the school.”

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