

# News

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## **Morgan Sindall donates 1,500 school chairs to support children's education worldwide**

Construction and infrastructure company Morgan Sindall has helped to improve teaching conditions in some of the world's poorest countries by donating school chairs from two of its former project sites in the North West.

Morgan Sindall has donated 1,500 chairs to the charity, Furniture for Education Worldwide (FEW), which will ship the furniture to schools around the globe, including The Gambia, Pakistan, Nepal, Uganda, Cambodia and Kenya.

The chairs have been donated from Deanery High School, in Wigan, and South Shore Academy, in Blackpool. Both schools were part of the Priority Schools Building Programmes (PSBP) North West batch, which has involved the transformation of 8,144 school places for the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

The programme has seen 12 brand new buildings constructed to house schools across the North West, meaning that the classroom furniture at the old school sites would have been destined for landfill.

FEW is a North West charity that aims to send surplus and redundant furniture from school and office renovations across the UK to be used in classrooms in some of the world's most underprivileged countries.

In total, the charity has shipped 90 forty-foot containers filled with furniture, IT, stationery, sports equipment and clothes to schools around the world.

Barry Roberts, area director at Morgan Sindall, said: "Furniture for Education Worldwide is a fantastic charity that helps to ensure that every child can enjoy going to school and learning in a classroom.

"During our work on the Priority Schools programme, we were focused on delivering new state-of-the-art buildings that would make a real difference to the wellbeing and education of pupils. That's why we're delighted to be able to donate these chairs, which will hopefully mean that even more children can benefit from the project."

The charity continues to seek more donations from schools and organisations across the UK, as the demand for school places in the developing world increases.

Keith Bolam of Furniture for Education Worldwide, said: "Morgan Sindall's donation will make an incredible difference to these children. We rely on donations such as these and we were getting to the point where we were becoming desperate for stacking chairs.

"When I first started visiting schools in The Gambia, we would often see up to 40 or 50 children sitting on the floor in a classroom. Thanks to donations such as Morgan Sindall's, they're now all sat at desks and ready to learn."

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