

# News

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## **Morgan Sindall plc starts work on £2.6 million Halebank Church of England Primary School**

Morgan Sindall plc has started work to build the new £2.6 million Halebank Church of England Primary School on Heath View Road, in Widnes, Halton.

This is one of 12 schools to be delivered by Morgan Sindall under the Education Funding Agency's (EFA) Priority School Building Programme (PSBP) which aims to provide purpose-built school buildings to those in most need of repair.

Halebank Church of England Primary School will see most of the existing buildings demolished, with only the pre-school building being retained. A new single-storey school building will be built, along with a new car park and associated external learning space for pupils. A phased programme of construction and demolition works will enable the existing school to remain operational whilst the new one is being built. The new half form entry school will house 105 pupils and will include; four classrooms, a new hall and dining area, a learning resource centre, a dedicated special educational needs room and new staff facilities. Works will also include extensive re-landscaping of the site including a new multi-use games area to enhance the external learning environment at the school.

Barry Roberts, area director at Morgan Sindall, said: "Halebank Church of England Primary School is a great community school and I'm sure the pupils and staff will benefit greatly from the new facilities. The new design makes the best use of the space available and will give the school an enhanced presence in the local community.

"We are now progressing well with this project and will keep the local community informed about developments on site."

Gill Threadgold, head teacher at Halebank CE Primary School, said: "Staff, pupils and governors of our school are very excited about the new building and its much improved teaching facilities, which will provide a better working environment for all who use the school. We have enjoyed working with the dedicated staff of Morgan Sindall, the EFA, Halton Council and Liverpool Diocese, who have helped us to bring this project to fruition."

Through the national PSBP programme, 261 schools will be rebuilt or have their condition needs met by the EFA, the first of which was completed in 2014. All schools within the programme will be delivered by the end of 2017.

This project forms part of the North West Private Finance batch, which reached financial close in March 2015. The batch includes a total of 12 schools in Cheshire West & Chester, Wigan, Manchester, Stockport, Wirral, Halton and Blackpool. Across the programme, where possible, each new school will be built on land within the existing school boundary allowing the school to remain operational during construction of the new buildings.

Morgan Sindall's contract covers the design and build of the new school and the Hard Facilities management of the school for 25 years. Designers have utilised level two Building Information Modelling (BIM) practices to design the school. This provides a platform for the different disciplines involved in design and construction, to collaborate and share information leading to greater

efficiencies at all stages of the project.

The school and associated external works are scheduled to complete in summer 2016.

The full list of schools Morgan Sindall is delivering under PSBP is as follows:

Secondary schools:

Blacon High School, Blacon, Chester

The Deanery Church of England High School and Sixth Form College, Wigan

Neston High School, Neston, Wirral

Ridgeway High School, Prenton, Wirral

South Shore Academy, Blackpool

Primary schools:

Bedford Drive Primary School, Birkenhead, Wirral

Bridge Hall Primary School, Stockport

Dee Point Primary School, Blacon, Chester

Halebank Primary School, Halebank, Halton

Hawes Side Primary School, Blackpool

JH Godwin Primary School, Blacon, Chester

Plymouth Grove Primary School, Manchester

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