

News

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Morgan Sindall tops out at £44 million Tonyrefail super school

Construction and infrastructure company, Morgan Sindall, has celebrated a key milestone in its work to create a £44m 'all through' school, for children aged between 3 and 19 years, in Tonyrefail.

Morgan Sindall was selected by Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) Council to build the school, which is being delivered under the auspices of the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools programme. It is one of a number of education projects that the company is delivering across South Wales.

Once complete it will provide a modern 'all through' learning environment for pupils aged three to 18. The new school will comprise a 360-pupil primary school with nursery class in addition to a 1,190-place secondary school and sixth form.

The project milestone was marked with a traditional topping out ceremony on the roof.

Hosted by Morgan Sindall, it was attended by Headteacher Heather Nicholas, Head of 21st Century Schools, Andrea Richards and excited pupils who were afforded a unique view of how their school is shaping up.

Construction work is progressing well, and involves the creation of two new buildings, along with the refurbishment of an existing Grade-II listed Victorian building.

Morgan Sindall has worked closely with both the Council and Cadw – the Welsh Government's historic environment service – to ensure that alterations to the listed building are delivered sympathetically, and in keeping with its heritage.

Robert Williams, Morgan Sindall Area Director, said: "We're incredibly pleased to reach this milestone, and to show staff and pupils how their new school is shaping up. It's a great project which will deliver exceptional spaces for the most important customer we have: the pupils."

"As one of the most experienced designers and builders in education, Morgan Sindall has been very much involved in the 21st Century Schools programme. We've invested in R&D to develop our revolutionary 'MySchool Wales' concept in tandem with delivering more than 15 individual projects under the programme.

"Tonyrefail School, and other modern 'all through' campuses which enable the co-location of primary and secondary education services, will help local authorities to meet the challenge of school improvement and set the standard for schools of the future."

Headteacher Heather Nicholas said: "The pupils loved the chance to take to the roof and get a bird's-eye view of the building work.

"The project is extremely exciting and we're grateful for the hard work and enthusiasm shown by the Morgan Sindall site team in delivering the project for Tonyrefail."

Councillor Joy Rosser, Rhondda Cynon Taf Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning, said: "The huge £85m investment in education across Rhondda and Tonyrefail is being delivered thanks to support from #RCTinvest and the Welsh Government – and it will transform the

opportunities available to our young people. The 3-19 school development in Tonyrefail is really starting to take shape, and will be a fantastic facility for future generations of staff and pupils to enjoy.”

Construction work is set to be completed by spring 2019.

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