

News

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We've created 2,000 new school places across the East of England

Local authorities across the East of England have been tasked with creating thousands of new school places ready in time for the new school term, in a drive to meet the swelling demand of admissions being received from growing communities across the region.

More than 2,000 of these new places have been delivered by Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure, through a mixture of both new build and expansion developments.

Across Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire, the construction company has handed over seven new school buildings and two school expansions ready for the new academic year.

The investments have all been targeted in areas where the numbers of children are forecasted to surge in the coming years.

Saul Humphrey, managing director of Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure in the East, said: "In recent years, there's been growing pressure placed on local authorities across the East to sustain the record level of school admissions being received. As the region continues to become an increasingly desirable place to live and work, it's crucial that our schools are fitted with the necessary infrastructure to support our expanding communities.

"Our construction teams have handed over more than 2,000 school places in time for the new academic year. This is a major milestone for our teams, who have delivered seven outstanding new school buildings and two further expansions - all to the highest standard and quality.

"It's been a pleasure to have been involved in shaping the next generation of school places for the East. Throughout this process, we've enjoyed working collaboratively with each local authority and all of our partners to deliver these world-class facilities, which are raising the standards for education.

"This major investment will transform teaching provisions, ensuring that our schools are equipped with the right facilities to create a unique and inspiring learning experience for children across the East."

The new build projects include Chapel Green School, a complex needs school in Norfolk, which is now able to accommodate 110 pupils. The £11 million project on behalf of Norfolk County Council includes 14 classrooms and several specially designed learning rooms, including a sensory room and hydro therapy pool room.

In Essex, Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure has also delivered more than 1,000 school places across four schools; Magna Carta Primary Academy, Newhall School, St Michael's Primary School and Home Farm Primary School. The new build projects were all delivered on behalf of Essex County Council.

The company has also delivered a new building for Pines Primary School in Suffolk, which has created the first 210 places and has been designed to eventually cater for 420 pupils. The project was delivered for Suffolk County Council.

Bottisham Village College in Cambridgeshire has increased its capacity by 450 places. The £16.7 million new build programme for Cambridgeshire County Council and Anglian Learning Trust has involved a major expansion to the college's facilities, including a brand new teaching block comprising 22 classrooms, an auditorium, reception and dining area.

Alongside the new builds, the company has also expanded two schools, including Attleborough Junior School in Norfolk. The four-class extension project for Norfolk County Council has created 120 new school places.

Morley Memorial School in Cambridgeshire has received a £3.3 million extension, which was delivered on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council. The 420-place school has retained the same number of school places. The project team has delivered works to upgrade the school's facilities, including a new soft play area, an activity hall extension, a reception extension and internal refurbishment works.

New build projects being delivered by Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure:

- Chapel Green School, Norfolk - 110 places
- Pines Primary School, Suffolk - 210 places
- Magna Carta Primary Academy, Essex - 210 places
- Newhall School, Essex - 480 places
- St Michael's Primary School, Essex - 210 places
- Home Farm Primary School, Essex - 210 places
- Bottisham Village College, Cambridgeshire - 450 places

Expansion projects being delivered by Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure:

- Morley Memorial School, Cambridgeshire - retained 420 places
- Attleborough Junior School, Norfolk - 120 places

Total 2,420 places

Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure project partners across the schemes included design and property consultants Concertus, NPS Group, architects Pick Everard, Faithful + Gould, astudio and Feilden+Mawson, and consultants Rossi Long and Johns Slater and Haward.

- For more information about this news release please contact Steph Bocking at Influential on 0151 239 5000 or email bocking@thisisinfluential.com