



Partners in Construction

NEWS RELEASE 8 December 2006

Maths block 'sets the standard' at Brockworth Enterprise School

Pupils at Brockworth Enterprise School in Gloucestershire are enjoying a bright new learning environment in a £1.1m Maths block built by Beard, the southern England construction company. It replaces classrooms destroyed by fire two years ago.

The new, six-classroom building features natural air conditioning controlled by air sensors, automatically adjusted light levels, underfloor heating, rainwater-flushing toilets and a 'brise-soleil' system shading ground floor windows from the sun.

"We are delighted with our new building," said Headteacher Paul Elliott. "Beard offered a very professional, can-do approach and worked closely with the school and the architect to finalise the design so that it kept within budget.

"The building is very attractive, with calming, neutral colours inside and flashes of green steelwork and blue rendering outside to contrast with the traditional brickwork. The students and staff love it. It's very airy and the wide corridors and glazed entrance lobby give a sense of spaciousness. The finish and fittings are of a very high quality. The project has set a high standard for future building at the school."

The project's architects and engineers, ASTAM GBC Consultancy, incorporated several learning-friendly and energy-saving systems into their design. The passive ventilation system, which automatically opens and closes window louvres to optimise CO₂ and temperature levels in the classrooms, eliminates the need for electric fans. Meanwhile, a system of sensors creates uniform light levels by automatically compensating for changing daylight conditions, and switches lights off in empty rooms.

Insurance proceeds and additional budget from Gloucestershire County Council met the £1.1m cost of the new building, which is the first in a series of planned developments at the school.

The next phase of building at Brockworth Enterprise School will create an adjoining 'mirror image' classroom block to accommodate the increasing pupil numbers.

Beard (www.beard-construction.co.uk) operates throughout central southern England and undertakes construction projects worth up to £6m. Established in 1892, Beard has offices in Swindon and Oxford and employs 160 people. Beard's Managing Director, Mark Beard, was Oxfordshire Businessman of the Year in 2004.

Picture caption: The new Maths block at Brockworth Enterprise School, built by Beard.

Beard company facts and figures

- Established 1892
- £33m turnover in 2005 (up from £22m in 2004)
- 160 employees
- Engaged in the Construction Best Practice Programme
- Quality assured to BS EN ISO 9001:2000
- SAFE Contractor
- Member of the Considerate Contractor Scheme
- Investor in People
- Chartered Institute of Building training partner
- Mark Beard awarded Oxfordshire Businessman of the Year 2004
- Beacon Company
- Winner of the 2006 Wiltshire Business Training and Development Award

Ends

For more information please contact:

Angela Jones PR
1 Edwards Meadow
Marlborough
Wiltshire SN8 1UL
Tel: 01672 515068
Email: angela@angelaionespr.co.uk

or

Sarah Parker, Marketing Manager
Beard
Cumnor Hill,
Oxford OX2 9PJ
Tel: 01865 860033
Email: sarah.parker@beardoxford.co.uk