

## **Project Management Case Study**

- **Name of Project:** Colebourne & Beaufort School
- **Value:** £8,721,159 (excluding fees)
- **Client:** Education Directorate
- **Completion Date:** September 2009
- **Project Brief:**

The project brief was to create a co-location of the existing Colebourne Junior and Infants and Beaufort Special schools into new purpose designed school buildings on the Colebourne site under the Government's Inclusion principles. The schools aim to work together to accommodate the learning needs and preferred learning styles of all pupils. The object is to create a new primary school, a Special Needs school and Nursery facilities together with associated play areas, car parking and external works.

- **How we met our clients expectations**

This will be Birmingham's first 'Inclusive' school – where it is intended that special needs pupils will integrate with mainstream pupils – providing all the facilities expected of a modern mainstream school, combined with the highly specialised provision required for teaching and caring for special needs children. The design is an innovative response to reflect the exceptional circumstances required by the brief.

The form, layout, siting and orientation of the school have been carefully considered over a lengthy period of consultation; through close specialist liaison; and thorough reference to Department for Education requirements and guidelines.

The proposal is specifically informed by the BB94 – the DfES "Inclusive School Design" with input from Gill Hawkins (Advisor on Inclusive Specialism at the DfES) – and working with the City's Education Department and the two heads (and staff) of the respective schools.

It is anticipated that the school will form the model for future schools both in the City and nationally.

Two of the major elements of this construction will be the inclusion of a hydrotherapy pool, and it is intended that the bulk of the new building will have a sedum "green" roof to integrate the built forms into the park environment, to assist the attenuation of roof water run off, to significantly increase it's thermal and acoustic characteristics and the enhance the buildings sustainability.

- **Clients recognition / Testimonials and any Awards**

Head Teachers - Debbie Jenkins (Beaufort school) and Stuart Guest (Colebourne School) are very positive about the project.

"There have been a number of challenges to this project, namely due to the diverse needs both the schools and their pupils have. Being involved in this development has been a steep learning curve, however both Stuart and I have felt very supported by the team guiding us through every phase," said Debbie.

“The whole concept of Urban Design and the BCP has been about working together. We have a great relationship with the team and feel we can be honest and open about what we think. The daily contact helps us to push tasks forward and focus on the same goals but we can also have a laugh together,” said Stuart

“The new design of the building send a message to our staff and pupils that they are valued, the BCP have really taken on board all interests and needs of the children, making sure that integration is at the centre,” said Debbie.

### **Photos of the project**

