

## CASE STUDY

# Revolutionising primary education in Doncaster

## A Case Study of Carr Lodge Academy



### NEED

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council recognised the need for a new 420 pupil place 2FEN primary school, following an extensive study across the borough which identified a shortage of school places and a growing population due to an increase in new housing developments in Balby and surrounding areas. Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council needed to deliver the school within a restricted budget and time scale. Carr Lodge Academy was to be the first new school Doncaster had seen in a whole generation.

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council required the school to incorporate a large communal hall, dining area, a state of the art ICT installation and a separate nursery area with external soft play in order to meet local demand and Ofsted expectations.

### CHALLENGE

1. Tight budget constraints due to local Council budget cuts.
2. Limited time frame to deliver a 2FEN school for local residents.
3. Negative political issues from surrounding schools.
4. Lack of framework knowledge and experience; the Council had not previously used a framework to procure a school.
5. Attracting an academy sponsor to buy into the Sunesis idea.
6. Maintaining and repositioning a protected wildlife habitat area.
7. Severe weather conditions impacted upon the programme however all delays were mitigated through collaborative working.

### SOLUTION

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council were introduced to Scape and Sunesis and were instantly attracted to the ease associated with by-passing OJEU and choosing a pre-designed model via the Sunesis range. The client visited a number of completed and live Sunesis schools and were extremely impressed with the design, quality and value for money on display.

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council opted for the Sunesis Keynes Primary school model which accommodates 420 students, plus a nursery facility. The pre-designed model ensured the project was delivered within the pre-agreed time and budget constraints, whilst also providing for the local community and increased demand.

**“The Scape Framework and Sunesis gave us confidence in the product and cost within our tight budget constraints to deliver an ideal 2FEN school on the land we had available.”**

**Andy Mowforth, Project Manager, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council.**

**“Procuring a Sunesis Keynes school from Willmott Dixon through Scape has been an overwhelmingly positive and painless experience. I don’t believe any other option could have delivered so much for so little, in such a short time frame.**

**Adam Midgley, Head of Construction Services, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council.**

## TIME

Through the use of The Scape National Major Works Framework, the key milestones were:

- Nov 2012:** Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council signed the Access Agreement enabling access to The Scape Framework.
- Mar 2014:** Willmott Dixon were commissioned to complete the preconstruction works, Project Order signed.
- Aug 2014:** Planning approved for Carr Lodge Academy.
- Oct 2014:** Willmott Dixon hosted a Breaking the Ground ceremony to mark the start of the construction process.
- Aug 2015:** Early completion; successful handover to Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council.



## OUTCOMES

- Together with Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, Carr Lodge Academy and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Willmott Dixon helped to create a habitat area opposite the site. This area has WiFi coverage and the use of QR codes to deliver a diverse and interactive curriculum around wildlife.
- The project team at Carr Lodge Academy worked with Doncaster College, Ridgewood Academy and Balby Carr Academy to provide work experience placements for 16-21 year olds; the students gained practical hands on experience in a number of roles.
- Following the Carr Lodge Academy project, the first project with Doncaster Council, Willmott Dixon and Scape have developed their relationship and are now delivering a further three projects in excess of £45m.

## PERFORMANCE

- **99%** of waste diverted from landfill
- **89%** SME engagement
- **94%** of budget spend within 40 miles
- **90%** of labour within 40 miles
- **134** students attended workshops on site
- **21** weeks work experience provided on site
- **54** apprentice weeks provided on site

## DELIVERED BY

