£12M University of Cambridge Primary School

Client
University of Cambridge

Duration
2014 - 2015

Value
£12M

Services
NEC Supervisor

Contract
NEC3

Funding
Private

Sustainability
BREEAM ‘Excellent’

Work on the iconic circular design of the three-form entry school started in November 2014 and the first phase was completed and opened for the start of the academic year in September 2015. The second phase of the building was handed over in December 2015 providing facilities for 630 pupils. The building is the first operational facility to be delivered as part of the North West Cambridge Development (NWCD), which once completed will be a new district in Cambridge, centred around a mixed academic and urban community.

The University of Cambridge Primary School provides education for children aged four to 11 of mixed abilities. The school does not have a specific religious character, or a particular faith ethos. In addition to providing an inclusive and high-quality primary education for local children, the school also offers unique training and research opportunities through its close relationship with the faculties and departments of the University of Cambridge.

The main challenge we faced during the scheme was ensuring that the school opened on the scheduled date of 7th September 2015. The programme was very demanding and required working closely with the contractor in order to meet the required opening date, which was successfully achieved.

During the first school governors’ meeting, their gratitude of calfordseaden’s services was expressed and they stated that the parents and pupils were delighted to be using the school building. They offered the entire NWCD team their thanks for completing the works on time, specifically recognising the contribution and commitment shown by the Client, Project Manager, Operations Manager and calfordseaden.

The University of Cambridge Primary School was awarded a ‘Highly Commended’ accolade at the 2016 Cambridge Design and Construction Awards in the Best New Building – Large category.