

Nethergate School remodelled for the 21st century

The £3.2 million transformation of Nethergate School in Clifton has been completed today.

The £3.2 million refurbishment project was funded through the former Government's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme.

The existing school accommodation has been completely remodelled and refurbished to provide a state of the art school for up to 75 pupils with moderate learning difficulties (MLD).

Access into the school has been improved and a new welcoming entrance courtyard has been created. A new library and a whole-school meeting space, which will be used for assemblies and celebrations, have been created. In addition, specialist teaching areas for life-skills such as food technology, design technology and art have been created.

The number of classrooms has increased from seven to nine which will enable each Key Stage a dedicated and appropriate space giving pupils a sense of transition as they progress through the school. For example, the Key Stage 4 hub has a distinctly 'adult' feel. Each classroom extends out onto its own private outdoor teaching area which connects the buildings with the surrounding landscape.

The school is also benefiting from a bespoke ICT Managed Service which is fully integrated into the design of the building to enable the school to maximise their learning environment. The ICT solution will deliver the school's vision for technology which includes an emphasis on mobile and interactive technologies. For example, leading-edge wireless technology enables the school to use mobile devices throughout the buildings. A training programme has been developed to help teaching staff become confident with the new technologies and help them explore and develop them into the future.

Tracey Ydlibi, Headteacher at Nethergate School, said: "Our new modern facilities will enable us to provide a fantastic place for pupils to learn. We are committed to sharing our expertise as a 'centre of excellence' for teaching children with moderate and complex learning difficulties and these enhancements to our accommodation will allow us to work more collaboratively with mainstream schools across the city."

Councillor David Mellen, Nottingham City Council's Portfolio Holder for Children's Services said: "I am delighted to see the completion of the works at Nethergate School, which have provided greatly improved environments for the children to learn in, giving them the opportunity to thrive and succeed."

The construction work, which began in July 2011, has been carried out by Nottingham's award-winning Local Education Partnership (LEP) which is a public private partnership between the Council and inspiredspaces.

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Notes to editors

Nottingham's award-winning Local Education Partnership (LEP)

Nottingham's LEP is a public private partnership between Nottingham City Council, Building Schools for the Future Investments and a private sector partner. In Nottingham, the private sector partner is

inspiredspaces which brings Carillion as construction and facilities management services provider, together with Capita who provide ICT expertise.

To find out more, visit www.nottinghamlep.co.uk

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