



Case study: Wilmington Grammar School for Girls

Prima

Integrated Facade Solutions

Prima's value engineering solution gives Girls School a new look

Programme & logistic solution

Although initial design issues were successfully resolved the time taken had eaten into the project time frame meaning the works could not be completed without major disruption and upheaval to the running of the school. The school was at risk of losing their funding if the deadline could not be met.

The solution was for the work to be undertaken at night. As it was not possible to complete a classroom in one session internal partitions were erected prior to the main works to enable the classrooms to stay fully functional regardless of the replacement facade works.

All works were undertaken from an external scaffold which was enclosed to reduce noise & light pollution to the surrounding residential areas as well as offering additional weathering to ensure the work was not impeded or delayed.

Working closely with the school a high level of planning was undertaken in the preparation and upkeep of the programme of works, correct scheduling was key to ensuring that the works progressed smoothly and more importantly with minimum disruption to the day to day running of the school

Design solution

The original design proposal was to over clad the entire building facade however after further discussion it was clear that this option far exceeded the project's budget.

With the project in doubt it was up to Prima's experienced team to develop a solution. By retaining the existing structural steel Crittall window mullions it was possible to insert a steel reinforced PVCu double glazed curtain wall window system between the steel mullions to form a new high performance building facade.

The steel mullions were then over clad to improve the overall thermal and visual performance of the facade. The over swing windows offered the perfect solution to the ventilation requirements whilst also providing the robustness required in a school environment, the flush sight line externally increased the modern feel to the finished facade.

I would like to thank you for the excellent work that has been undertaken. Your careful planning and excellent management of the team meant that the disruption to the school was kept to a minimum. The resulting windows have transformed the classrooms by making them appear more modern and also ensuring that the heat loss has been reduced.

Mrs Maggie Bolton, Wilmington Grammar School for Girls



Project profile

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| Project: | Wilmington Girls Grammar, Dartford |
| Architect: | Lee Evans Partnership |
| Contractor: | Coombs (Canterbury) Ltd |
| Value: | £357,000 |
| Products: | Rehau Total 70 windows |

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