

MASS Case Study - Brumby College

Context

MASS has a long track record of providing ICT solutions to a range of government and private sector clients.

In early 2009, a consortium comprising of MASS, May Gurney Integrated Services plc and NPS Property Consultants Ltd was selected by North Lincolnshire Council, under the previous government's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, to deliver seven new and refurbished schools in North Lincolnshire. As the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) partner in the consortium, MASS is contracted to provide a tailored package of integrated ICT equipment, networks and software to each school backed up by a fully managed service for support and maintenance. This contract is worth in excess of £13 million over 8 years.

During the first year of the contract MASS set up an interim service for all of the schools and has been engaged in extensive dialogue to ensure that the differing client requirements for each school are fully captured.

N Lincolnshire ICT Programme

In June 2009, the first ground works commenced in the programme to build Brumby Engineering College - the first of two sample schools for the North Lincolnshire Learning Partnership. Brumby College is a mixed gender secondary school of some 700 pupils aged 11-16, serving the Scunthorpe and North Lincolnshire area



Brumby College Ground Breaking Ceremony - 16 June 09

MASS commenced the Brumby ICT project with an extensive consultation period in July 2009. Throughout 2010, the Brumby ICT project continued, on time and budget, with design, procurement, installation and testing phases.

In February 2010, MASS completed the first phase of project successfully with the handover of the first functional ICT equipped classrooms in the college.

ICT work is now well under way at Melior Community College – the second sample school and a completely new build, which is due to complete in Autumn 2011. Meanwhile initial design work has started at the third school, FTC Performing Arts College in Scunthorpe, whilst an interim managed service to support the Brumby and Melior is now in place. This will ramp up to a full managed ICT service as the new schools are completed.

Brumby College - MASS Contribution to Outcomes

MASS has delivered Brumby College ICT on time and to the specification agreed with the School Leadership Team (SLT).

Because of the way in which the contract was let, contact with the school was limited until after contract award. MASS, therefore, had to develop its relationship with the school very quickly after contract award and build a close working partnership with the SLT at every stage of delivery thereafter. The recent successful delivery of the Brumby ICT project has demonstrated MASS' capability to work to tight deadlines, whilst at the same time being able to work with SLTs to achieve successful educational outcomes.

A specific example of how MASS contributed to a successful outcome, was when the school was experiencing some resistance to the adoption of the proposed Learning Platform (LP). This came as the result of a poor experience with a previous contractor. It was agreed with the SLT that MASS

would provide an interim LP in a trial environment - to assist in adoption and to help shape changing educational needs within the school.

Additionally MASS planned a series of focus groups with the SLT and council education transformation teams to plan a roll out across the school and beyond; the latter now being used as a model of best practice. Following evaluation of initial outcomes, MASS trained two coaches to assist in rollout to individual teachers on a personalised development programme.

The result was that teachers gained full confidence in the LP and were able to revise their teaching practices to integrate the new technology quickly and effectively.

Such is the success of this outcome that MASS is able to use the methodology to cascade the approach and outcomes across other schools in the North Lincolnshire area.



Brumby College, ICT classrooms ready - February 2011

Footnotes about Brumby Engineering College

School Vision

The school's vision is to excel in the engineering environment where all students are expected to achieve, not only academically but socially and personally.

Extract from OFSTED Report

The vast majority of students at the college are of White British heritage with very few students who speak English as an additional language. However, an increasing number of Polish students attend the college.

The percentage of students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities is much higher than nationally.

The college is a specialist engineering college. It holds the healthy school award, the Artsmark silver award and the silver sports award. The rebuilding of the college started in June 2009 and began services in their new buildings this spring 2010.

The school is located in an urban area with fairly high levels of deprivation. At its most recent OfSTED inspection of January 2010, the Inspectors identified the school as having 'a potential for excellence,' receiving 'Good' in every category.