

Achieving ICT excellence for Schools through Building Partnerships

Summary

The Grange Primary School in Scunthorpe is one of eight new-build schools in North and North East Lincolnshire, selected to be built under the Education Funding Agency (EFA) Regional Priority School Building Programme (PSBP) Framework. The building contract for this new school, along with all the others in this PSBP region, was awarded to UK construction group, Galliford Try in partnership with independent ICT advisors, Novatia.

The new school replaced two existing schools, Grange Lane Infant and Grange Lane Junior School, deemed no longer fit for purpose.

Novatia worked alongside Galliford Try, using their ICT expertise to engage with the EFA and school to interpret the brief into an integrated design.

Novatia specialists provided a technical design that fully met the EFA's Facilities Output Specification requirements and completed the ICT-related sections of the tender package.

Once the EFA contract was awarded, Novatia partnered Galliford Try to deliver the ICT



elements of the solution. This included provision of technical assurance on delivery of the dedicated server room and cabling infrastructure, as well as



implementing the ICT solution, including active network, wireless, IP telephony and classroom AV.

Novatia took full responsibility for managing the decant and install of the classroom ICT (end user devices) and also provided Go Live support, handover and training to ensure the school was able to use and manage their new infrastructure.

Project implementation began

in October 2015; eight months later in May 2016 over 400 students and 60 staff moved into their brand new school with a fully-integrated ICT infrastructure, built on the existing Junior School site.

Thanks to close co-working between Galliford Try, Novatia and the School, the project was able to be delivered smoothly, to a high specification, with minimum disruption.

"The partnership worked extremely well. Novatia information was always accurate and on time, taking into account co-ordination with other contractors. We were especially impressed by the quick service given by their project management team."

- Kristina Samuels, Senior Site Manager, Galliford Try

Main Challenges



SUCCESSFUL CO-WORKING: Four Parties - Galliford Try, Novatia, The Grange School and the EFA - had to work in harmony in order to ensure the best possible ICT service delivery and solutions.

① The design for the new school had to incorporate a range of flexible learning spaces; ICT, mechanical & electrical systems (M&E), movable furniture, fixtures and other equipment (FF&E) had to be considered collectively from the start.

② The project had to be delivered to a high standard, with best value ICT procurement, in order to meet budget deliverables.

③ A complex matrix of supply chains had to be coordinated and understood.

④ The new infrastructure had to accommodate the decant of the school's existing end user equipment, as well as support the school's own ICT vision for speed, capacity, resilience and future flexibility.

⑤ The new infrastructure had to deliver high quality performance, and enable access from

anywhere across the new building.

⑥ The migration and decant from the two old schools to the new school building had to be as seamless as possible, with little or no disruption to learning or business functions. The availability of broadband connections and telephone lines was deemed critical.

“Novatia was instrumental in ensuring our vision became a reality by listening to what we were aiming to achieve as well as understanding our school, ethos and values. They communicated with us effectively through the whole process, involving us in all key decisions and guiding us into making the right choices.”

- Larissa Thorpe, Headteacher



The Solutions

"Novatia's engagement with the EFA was first class, this allowed the client and school to get exactly what they wanted."

- Kristina Samuels, Senior Site Manager



1 Galliford Try and Novatia worked alongside the school and design teams to ensure ICT bid submission met the EFA brief and requirements, fully detailing locations for data and small power, server room design, active and passive network elements.

2 All four parties communicated effectively at every stage of the building process, trying to understand and appreciate each other's requirements.

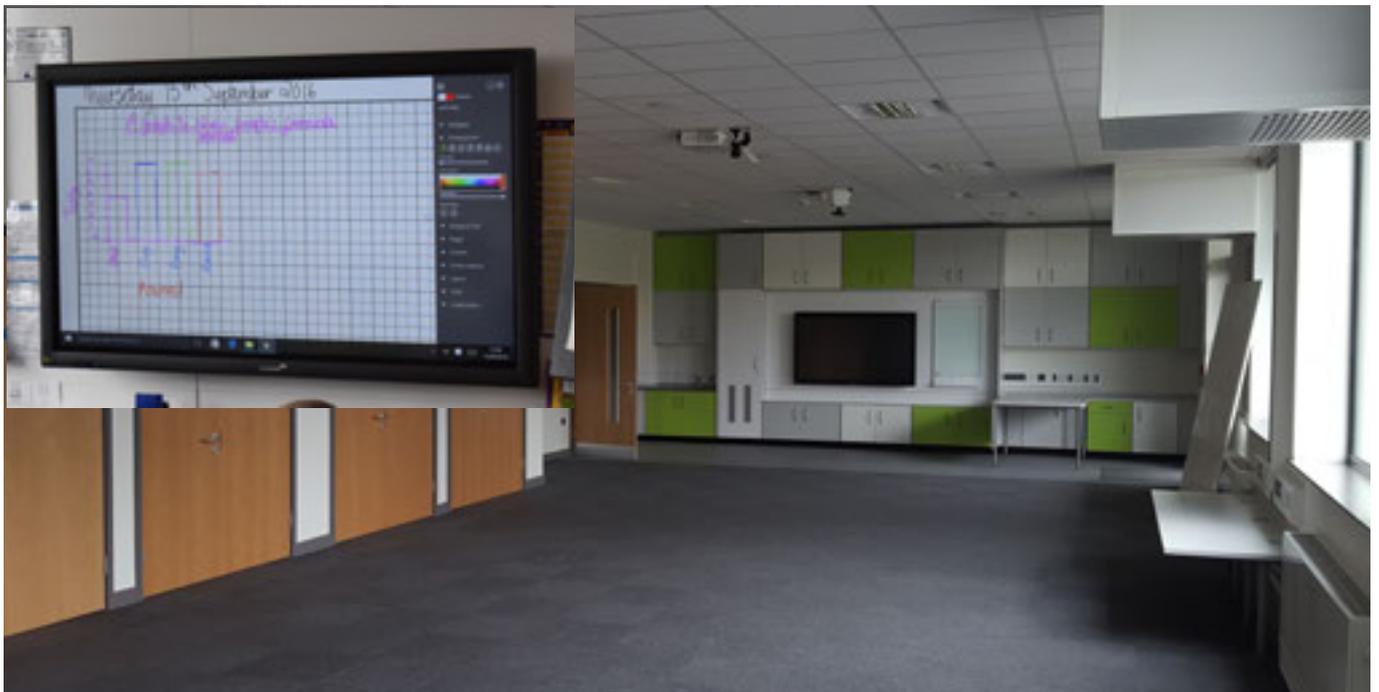
3 Galliford Try and Novatia, working closely alongside the school, were able to align the intended pedagogy with the available space.

4 Novatia provided detailed design work and consultancy to Galliford Try throughout every stage of construction to ensure the ICT component of the project was delivered in-line with the brief.

5 Novatia procured, installed, configured and tested all the ICT elements of the new build.

6 Galliford Try and Novatia ensured an efficient ICT decant, with a trouble-free transition; with downtime programmed during the school holidays.

7 Novatia provided a seamless handover with the school's ICT managed service provider, including hands-on training for the school's support staff during the initial 'Go Live' period.



The Results

WORKING TOGETHER, from the bid submission onwards, Novatia and Galliford Try were able to provide the EFA, and ultimately The Grange Primary School, with consistency from the initial planning & design stage, through to decant and delivery of the new ICT infrastructure within the new building.



This also ensured continuity as the same project team and personnel worked on every stage of the build. This was especially beneficial to the school as they did not have to constantly revisit any decisions they had made at the design stage during the delivery process.

The Grange is now a fully ICT-integrated school, in an attractive, purpose-built, robust and sustainable building, able to better support the School's current and future needs.

Future Plans

Galliford Try and Novatia have also been working in a successful partnership with Baysgarth School, Brumby Junior School, Burton-upon-Stather Primary School, Crosby Primary School, Great Coates Primary School, Oasis Academy, Vale Academy - the other seven schools selected by the EFA in the North and North East Lincolnshire EFA region. They are also delivering solutions together for Sutton Primary School, Hacton Primary School and Selwyn Primary School in London.

- 21 classrooms with LED interactive screens integrated into bespoke 'teaching-walls'.
- Dedicated Server Room with best possible environment designed to ensure an efficient and reliable service to end users, helping to reduce maintenance and operating costs.
- Robust Cisco Enterprise network equipment.
- A Cisco IP telephony solution.
- Category 6 structured cabling solution.
- Fully Cisco wireless network, incorporating the latest Wave 2 technology.

How can these results be measured?

- The ICT element of the PSBP for The Grange Primary School was delivered to a high standard, on time, within the demanding programme schedule.
- The ICT solution used class leading equipment throughout.
- The ICT element was brought in within the EFA's ICT budget.
- The ICT solution is covered by 5 year hardware and software warranty.
- The solution has been designed to scale and to support future innovation.

"The service that the Novatia team provided on site was invaluable." - Kristina Samuels, Senior Site Manager



novatia

**FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT OUR BUILDING
PARTNERSHIPS AND
MAIN CONTRACTOR
SERVICES. VISIT
WWW.NOVATIA.COM**