



Client Name:
Meath VEC

Architect:
Coady & Partners Architects

Quantity Surveyor:
Fergal Coghlan & Associates

Duration:
Sept 2012 - Oct 2013

Contract Value:
£5.1m



Extension to Dunshauglin College, Meath

Description

Construction of a new extension and the refurbishment of the existing school. The 950 pupil school was kept fully operational at all times. In order to keep the refurbishment works on programme a lot of work was done at night time and over weekends.

Before the works started a number of temporary classrooms had to be constructed in order to provide a Science Lab, a woodwork room, a technical graphics room and some general classrooms.

The new extension is a two storey building linked to the existing school building. There is 24 general classrooms, 3 science labs, a word processing room, design & graphics, a multi-media lab, a staff room and associated offices, stores and toilets. A separate building, linked to the main building by a covered walkway, houses the construction studies, engineering technology and metalwork rooms.

The building structure is cavity block walls with precast concrete floor slabs, the blocks are painted fairface finish on the inside with 150mm of insulation and acrylic render on the external face. The roof is a double skin aluminium standing seam roof.

The refurbishment works to the old school included a complete new mechanical and electrical fit-out, new toilets, new ceilings, new floor coverings and completely repainted inside and out, there was also some changes to the room layouts. A new administration wing was also created with reception, principal's office and meeting room.

Work on this project started on the 15th September 2012, the existing school building was opened on the 2nd September 2013 and the new extension was opened on 14th October 2013, about 5 months ahead of programme.

The original programme was to have a completed new building by Easter 2014, we completed the new building by October 2013.



JJ Rhatigan & Company Project Overview

Extension to Dunshauglin College, Meath

Description

Because of the method of construction, getting the blockwork walls built and precast floors in place was key to getting this project completed ahead of time. This was done by increasing the resources and working 6 days a week. We also brought in a mobile crane and an additional teleporter to ensure that materials were brought to the brick layers as efficiently as possible. Originally we had planned on one teleporter for the duration of the contract but we increased this to two for a period of about 6 months.

With regard to the refurbishment of the existing school, initially the refurbishment works were due to be carried out over two summer holidays when the school would be closed. The project did not start until the 15th September 2012 and because of this we lost one of the summers. In order to catch up on this lost time we arranged with the school to carry out as much work as possible during nights and weekends. A large part of the refurbishment works was the installation of new heating, water supply, new toilets, new general electric services and new lighting. In order to accelerate this work, all the first fix was done at night time and at weekends while the school was operational. We installed a complete new mechanical and electrical system while keeping the original one in place and functioning at all times. We also carried out key tasks such as new drainage connections and pulling in new power cables during times when the school was closed such as mid-term break and Easter. By getting this work done prior to the school closing for the summer holidays it meant that we were in a position to start installing ceilings and other finishes straightaway.

Another key item was ensuring that all materials that have a long lead in such as doors, toilet cubicles, floor finishes etc., were all measured and ordered in good time, these were delivered in advance of when they were needed and stored ready for use.



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