

## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School

“It makes me feel more proud about **our** school.”



The project at John Loughborough School was completed in spring 2010.

Today, students and staff are making the most of its new facilities.

## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School

### Building a Better school

**J**ohn Loughborough Seventh-day Adventist School is located on a relatively small site in Tottenham. The school aims to be a beacon of excellence in the community and develop the talents and abilities of every child. With those young people in mind the school and Haringey Council set about to ensure that Building Schools for the Future could achieve a real transformation to teaching and learning.



# Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School

## Building a Better school

The key priorities for the project focused on providing better space for personalised learning especially in Maths and English; improving specialist areas of science, art, food technology and music, providing a more secure environment for students; improving accessibility to the building, and facilities for children with special educational needs. One of the key ambitions for the scheme was to enhance the overall appearance of the building and specifically modernise the reception area and main entrance to the school. The project also aimed to create an improved ICT infrastructure.



## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School

### Planning and design

The vision for the school was developed into a set of practical actions to transform the school. These included:

- Creating more flexible learning spaces, well-equipped with ICT
- Improving the poor condition of a number of specialist areas, including science labs, art music and food technology rooms
- Providing better facilities and spaces for students' social interaction during break and lunchtime
- Relocating and improving the reception and foyer areas
- Enhancing the overall ICT provision
- Increasing independent learning by creating a centralised Learning Resource Centre.



Architects Watkins Gray International provided the expertise to turn the school's vision into a series of workable design ideas.

## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School

### What's new at John Loughborough School

In spring 2010 the building programme came to an end. The school's £5million transformation has been focused on meeting the school's key priorities. BSF has enabled the school to create new facilities to better support students and give staff more practical and flexible teaching spaces. Some of the key features of the completed project are:

- Enhanced support for the school's specialist area through additional art and music rooms
- a Learning Resource Centre (LRC)
- new Maths and English facilities that are supporting functional skills and providing practical teaching spaces
- Improved / remodelled sports changing facilities
- An improved sense of security at the school and enhanced environment where students can feel safe - by building a new visitor's centre
- New food technology and ICT classrooms as part of an extension to block 'D'
- Upgraded Information and Communications Technology (ICT) across the school to bring learning into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School

### A great Welcome at John Loughborough School

Both the operation and the image of the school were hampered by its reception area. And from the early stages of this project it became apparent that for students and staff that improving the reception area could potentially help to instill a sense of pride in their school environment. The school now has a modern reception area of which students are particularly proud. The reception gives visitors a more positive perception of the school. There is a modern reception lobby and other visitor facilities.



“...if you are walking past the school at the front, now you say, ‘oh, that school looks nice’, just by what the reception looks like.”



## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School

It makes the school look presentable.”

“It looks nice.”

“I like the red couches.”

### Inside the Learning Resource Centre

**“Wow, it’s nice, I really like it.**

**I love the space.”**

**Latifa yr9**

Revitalising the school’s Learning Resource Centre was one of the key aims of the school’s vision for BSF. The project has enabled the school to transform its former library into a bright, modern space. The LRC has become one of the schools most valued resources particularly among its young people. The remodelling and extension of the library increased its area by almost 50%. The space can be used in a more flexible ways enabling the school to support independent learning particularly among its 14 to 19 year olds.

## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School



“It’s fantastic having that extra space.”

Daphne, librarian

“... before the library was **transformed** it wasn’t really appealing. I didn’t really want to go in the library...But now, I research in the library on the computers.” Year 8 student

### A new space for music – JLS hitting the right notes

A new music room has been created in the school’s North Wing of Block A and is almost 50% larger than the school’s previous (now demolished) space for music. The old music room made way for a new pupil entrance to the main building.

## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School



The enhancement of the music facilities is in keeping with the school aspiration to pursue a specialism in creative arts. The space is really appreciated by students and staff, and the new environment has given students a real sense of excitement.

**“I was appreciative of the spaciousness and it had an immediate impact on the students with their sense of ownership of the room and walking into it as a space in which they can perform and do music.”** Antonia, music teacher

“It is painted green, I like the colours. It’s bright, it’s nice. And there is more equipment in there. There are drums, and a piano, and keyboards. There are some guitars in there too.”

### Conclusions

John Loughborough School is grateful that the main areas BSF building works have been completed and outstanding 'snags' are being tackled. Our continuing challenge is to ensure that the completed phases of work allows for improved, engaging, and effective learning to take place with pupils of all abilities and a more efficient, cost effective use of the site.

The school is thankful to all professional services that have collaborated to make our dream, for a redeveloped site, possible in collaboration with Haringey Council.

## Conclusions



**“This project has enabled the school to make some positive changes. What’s most apparent is that our young people really appreciate how their school environment has improved.”**

Victor Lammy, John Loughborough School

## Building Schools for the Future: Transforming John Loughborough School

### Fact File

- This scheme was granted planning permission in March 2008
- Construction work began on the project in November 2008
- The new facilities were first open to the school in March 2010
- The Architect for the school is Watkins Gray International.
- The Contractors were Apollo

[www.haringey.gov.uk/bsf](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/bsf)