

CASE STUDY

Earlston Complex Needs Centre Scottish Borders

ESH **ADDED VALUE** 



Division:

Esh Border Construction



Client:

Scottish Borders Council



Value:

£1.6M



Dates:

Jan 2016 – Jan 2017

The scheme comprised of carrying out the construction of a new Complex Needs School which is located within the existing Earlston Primary School campus. It will provide classrooms, activity spaces, learning areas and supporting accommodation. Hard and soft landscaping works were completed externally.

The facility will be able to support other children with complex needs, not only on the autistic spectrum, who may have complex sensory impairments and be on placements out with the Scottish Borders. The school was opened in a ceremony attended by the Lord-Lieutenant for Roxburgh, Ettrick and Lauderdale, the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry KBE Richard Scott.

Added Value Deliverables

Deliverables	Required	Achieved
Existing Apprentices	12	7
Workshops	5	6
Charity Provision	0	2
Work Experience	4	5
Site Safety Presentation	1	1

Workshops

'Get into STEM' is an exciting programme developed to address the Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) skills gap in the built environment and introduce primary school students to STEM careers.

Each kit is filled with innovative construction themed items and lesson plans. The kit includes child sized PPE, construction themed books, foam bricks, wheel barrow, model buildings and design tools. 'Get into STEM' kits are provided to schools free of charge for a 2-week period and align with the Early Years Foundation Studies and Key Stage 1 curriculum.

Ealston Primary school (directly on site) received our kit for a two-week period giving 30 of their P2 student's access to the resources.

Building My Skills

Building My Skills is an award-winning employability skills programme which is delivered free of charge to secondary schools in the areas we operate. We are proud to partner with 130 regional and national businesses to support secondary school students with career advice and guidance as part of the timetable.

Delivered in five hour long sessions over the course of an academic year, the programme opens the eyes of young people to the world of work and provides guidance on CV writing and interview techniques. Students who attend all BMS sessions and complete their employability portfolios will be given the opportunity to attend a mock interview day at the end of the programme. Promising students who have previously attended mock interview days have been offered work experience, gap year placements and employment.

We are currently working with 80 students from Galashiels Academy in the Scottish Borders and a total of 11 schools in Scotland. Students will meet businesses including; Esh Border, Northumberland Theatre Company, Beattie, Rabbits, Thompson Gray, Newcastle United. Building My Skills will generate a total of 56,350 student hours this academic year.



Site Safety Talks

This project presented a great opportunity to roll out our 'Stay Safe' campaign in the local community to raise awareness of what happens behind the site hoardings and highlight the dangers of construction sites.

We engaged with 35 pupils at Earlston Primary School by delivering our site safety talk. The presentation covered the key dangers of construction sites, provided opportunities for students to dress up in personal protection equipment (PPE) and concluded with an interactive quiz.

Days	College/Training Provider	Date
13	JCP & Borders College	Groundworks
1	Earlston High School	Civil Engineering
15	Job Centre Plus	Labouring
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5	Earlston High Scgool	Joinery & Carpentry

Work Experience

As part of our commitment to this site we offered a total of 5 work placements to individuals looking to gain experience in the construction field.

We are passionate about developing the workforce of the future helping students develop an insight into the skills and attitudes required by business and to raise their awareness of career opportunities within the construction sector.

Charitable Provision

As part of the project we awarded £1000 to Borders Carers Centre based in the Scottish Borders via our Esh Communities scheme. The funding will support their community bus to offer local carers respite and trips.

"We are absolutely thrilled to have received this support from Esh, it will enable us to give carers in the Scottish Borders a much needed short break from their caring responsibilities" – Fiona Morrison, Borders Carers Centre

In addition to this we donated £1000 to Borders Animal Welfare to help make new Rabbit Runs and Cattery after some of their site was damaged during flooding.

Apprentices

We provide a bespoke apprenticeship programme via Esh Academy, our in-house apprenticeship programme.

During the project, we recruited 4 Scottish Borders based apprentices. They are studying courses including Bricklaying, Painting & Decorating and Carpentry & Joinery. 79% of our apprentices convert to full time roles within Esh Group – something we are particularly proud of!

Surname	Studying	Provider	End Date
Skeet	Intermediate Apprenticeship in Bricklaying Borders	College	31 st July 2018
Thurston	Advanced Apprenticeship in Painting & Decorating	Borders College	30 th June 2017
Roberts	Intermediate Apprenticeship in Painting & Decorating	Borders College	30 th June 2017
Wallace	Intermediate Apprenticeship in Carpentry & Joinery	Borders College	30 th June 2017