

**LOCATION:**

Low Ash Primary School,  
Shipley, West Yorkshire

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## Modular Building for Low Ash Primary School

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**CLIENT:**

City of Bradford Metropolitan  
District Council

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

- New modular nursery building
- Constructed in two phases on an occupied school site: externals and modular build
- Four modular bays
- Additional works to playground including relocation of the school ball court, fencing and railing, hard and soft landscaping
- Designed around thermal efficiency, reducing building heat loss
- Floor area 105m<sup>2</sup>
- Attractive Artem Cedar external vertical cladding finish
- Brick plinth with stepped and ramped access
- Anthracite grey Plastisol fascia with overhang canopy
- Aluminium windows and doors
- All groundworks, foundations and drainage
- Fire detection and intruder alarm installations
- Nursery building including washroom facilities, kitchen area and storage
- Completed August 2020
- Project value £483,000

**CHALLENGE:**

**Creating an attractive, energy efficient nursery classroom building on an occupied school site**

Serving 480 pupils between the ages of 3 and 11, Low Ash Primary School in Shipley aims to be a caring, exciting and enjoyable place to learn. The school's motto is 'Be the best that you can be!', with staff, parents, carers, governors and children working together, putting each child at the centre of learning to build a positive learning environment for all.

When the school required additional purpose-built space to house a new nursery classroom for Early Years education provision, modular building methods provided a fast and achievable option with the added benefit of energy efficient construction to reduce building heat loss. One of the key challenges was to deliver the project on an active school site, with very little space for separation of construction works and the day to day schedule of education within the school itself. Combined with the unexpected difficulties created by an active pandemic, this was a challenging build.

**EPC Rating A**

## PROJECT CASE STUDY



*We had a modular nursery built for us by Enviro. I am absolutely delighted with the result as it is well-built, attractive and put together with great attention to detail. It looks really smart."*

**Fiona Meer**  
Co-Headteacher



*In a word, professional. This project ran through Covid-19 lockdown, and the team helped keep the work going and dealt with the numerous supply issues that occurred due to the pandemic. It was one of only two school projects that stayed open throughout the lockdown, solely down to the way Enviro handled the project and looked after their employees."*

**Jonathan Simcock**  
Architectural Technologist/Project Manager,  
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

### Creating safe spaces on occupied school grounds

With the space for the new nursery building located right in the centre of the existing play area, the team from Enviro Building Solutions detailed a plan for the construction works and site logistics designed around the requirements of the school.

Phase One saw the team move a hard standing ball court, extending this with perimeter fencing and works vehicle park. All construction traffic and ongoing works then happened within this defined and segregated area, releasing playground space for the school and providing safe passage for pupils and staff through to the adjoining playing fields.

### Attractive, robust and practical design

Work could then begin on the foundations for the build, featuring a brick plinth with both stepped and ramped access to match requirements. Four modular bays form a classroom complete with a quiet area, washroom facilities, kitchen area and storage space. Artem cedar composite cladding was chosen for the exterior, providing a strong, durable and attractive solution with no requirements for staining, painting or treating.

Before the install began, Enviro's site manager championed the case for a time capsule to be buried within the foundations of the building; the school and the pupils got behind this scheme enthusiastically and the resultant records of our current times now lie beneath the foundations for future generations to discover!

### Meeting the COVID challenge

This project was completed against the backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic, with all the attendant challenges in terms of sourcing material supplies, labour and meeting social distancing requirements. Enviro Building Solutions succeeded in maintaining momentum for the project with the objective of having the classrooms ready for schools reopening in September, creating much needed additional space for education to resume safely.

Staff, governors and parents at Low Ash Primary School are delighted with the end result and say the new nursery building looks as if it has always been there. The school now offers impressive space and provision for Early Year children.



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