



CASE STUDY – University of Reading

Delivering a high quality construction framework to ensure that the University of Reading maintains its position as a vibrant and thriving global institution

Challenge

The University of Reading is ranked in the top 1% of universities worldwide (QS University World Rankings 2015/16) and serves over 17,000 students. With an aim to grow its capacity by 25% in the next decade, the University has a clear need to expand and upgrade its facilities. However, with environments that are active all year round and buildings that date back to 1892, this expansion is no mean feat.

Solution

Harnessing its vast experience in both the education and historic buildings sectors, VINCI Facilities' construction arm, 'Building Solutions', was selected as one of the University's five key framework partners competing via mini-competition for all projects up to £5m in value.

Since coming on board Building Solutions has completed a range of projects for the University including a roof replacement scheme, extensions to existing buildings, and both internal and external refurbishment projects including laboratory fit outs. However, the most recent project saw Building Solutions successfully complete a full refurbishment of the historic School of Architecture building, situated on the London Road Campus.

This £1.6m project encompassed the refurbishment and conversion of existing library areas to create new spaces for teaching, administration and catering, along with installing new M&E systems, a new lift, disabled access ramp, external paving, and landscaping to surrounding areas.

Impact

Building Solutions' performance on the framework has seen the firm consistently achieve exceptional customer satisfaction results. For example, the School of Architecture project secured an overall rating of 9 / 10, with many aspects securing 10 / 10, including technical knowledge, operational delivery, professionalism, reliability and adaptability.

It's thanks to this consistent focus on customer service that Building Solutions has been awarded 50% of all tenders submitted to the University under this framework.

From its efficient mobilisation plans to its exhaustive risk management strategies and strong focus on collaboration and transparency, Building Solutions has continually delivered across all remits to play a key role in facilitating the University's growth plans and helping to safeguard its future for decades to come.

Project information

Client: University of Reading

Location: Reading, Berkshire

Services: Full construction framework for projects up to £5m in value, encompassing Pre-Construction Services, Traditional Contracts, CDP, and Design and Build

Timeframe: July 2015 to July 2019



VINCI Facilities' site team kept me informed throughout this successful project so I knew exactly where we were with the programme. Furthermore, Health & Safety and Quality was exemplary. Well done and I look forward to working with VINCI Facilities again soon.

Steve Slatter, Project Manager
Estates & Facilities

