

Mitie's "Building a Lasting Legacy": Inspiring Future Construction Talent in Essex

Mitie on ECC contract recently played a significant role in the "Building a Lasting Legacy" programme. This comprehensive five-year initiative, led by Morgan Sindall Construction in partnership with ECC, is designed to introduce young people in Essex to the construction industry and cultivate a diverse talent pipeline for the region's-built environment sector.

As part of this programme, Mitie hosted 15 Year 9 students from The Sandon School for an insightful presentation and an exclusive tour of the new Net Zero building currently under construction at Great Waltham Primary School. The engagement highlighted Mitie's proactive commitment to supporting ECC's social value targets and aligning with the Themes, Outcomes, and Measures (TOMs) framework, particularly in areas of skills development, environmental stewardship, and community prosperity.



Photograph above of students from The Sandon School along with Mitie and JWSteele contractors



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A core element of Mitie's involvement was to provide students with a tangible understanding of the construction industry, from theoretical concepts to practical application. The engagement was structured to maximise learning and interaction:

• **Educational Presentation:** Mitie's team, comprising Pranay Kavathekar, Stephen Clarke, and David Rhymes, delivered a comprehensive presentation to the Year 9 students. This session highlighted key aspects of the industry, including:

- Construction processes and project management
- Energy management and sustainability principles
- Financial considerations in large-scale projects
- The roles of architecture and engineering
- Diverse career pathways within the built environment sector

• **Live Site Tour:** Following the presentation, students were taken to view the live construction site at Great Waltham Primary School. This provided a unique opportunity to observe the Net Zero classroom building under construction from a safe distance, offering a real-world context to the theoretical knowledge shared.

• **Direct Engagement with Contractors:** A highlight for the students was the chance to speak directly with builders from JW Steele, one of Mitie's contractors working on site. Students asked pertinent questions about career paths and interesting aspects of working in construction, receiving valuable answers and insights that enriched their understanding of the industry.



Photograph above of live brick laying demonstration at Great Waltham Primary School

CASE STUDY

The presentation specifically focused on the innovative technologies being installed to ensure the Great Waltham Primary School classroom achieves its Net Zero building status. This segment was particularly engaging for the students, who showed keen interest in sustainable practices.

Students were particularly interested in:

- The timeline for constructing such a project.
- The rationale behind the selection of specific Net Zero technologies.
- Broader concepts of energy management and sustainability.
- Project management methodologies.

A significant positive outcome was the expressed interest from female students in pursuing careers within the construction industry, a vital step towards promoting diversity in a field traditionally dominated by males.

Mitie's active participation in the "Building a Lasting Legacy" programme at Great Waltham Primary School exemplifies its commitment to corporate social responsibility and its alignment with ECC's social value objectives. By providing a rich, interactive, and inspiring experience for students from The Sandon School, Mitie is not only contributing to the development of a skilled and diverse future workforce for the construction industry but also fostering a greater understanding of sustainable building practices. This initiative powerfully demonstrates how strategic partnerships can deliver tangible benefits for individuals, communities, and the environment, creating a truly lasting legacy.



Photograph above of educational presentation for student

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