

Mace Group

Consultancy and construction firm Mace Group's flexible approach and experience in the education sector means they can offer solutions to a wide variety of problems and clients.

In an increasingly competitive education market, with students able to demand higher standards of living and learning environments, it is the institutions themselves who must deliver efficiencies and evaluate their estates to ensure quality at a



Oxford University Ashmolean Museum.

sustainable cost to all. Mace Group's project and programme approach has developed and evolved to work with the ever changing needs of their clients. Mace's expertise in the sector includes the development of campus masterplans and the delivery of a wide range of facilities, including research laboratories, halls of residence, learning resource centres, teaching space, auditoriums, sports halls and fields.

Mace clients in the sector cover a broad expanse of the UK including institutions in York, Glasgow, Birmingham, Oxford, Liverpool, Wolverhampton, Nottingham and London. Their increasingly high profile commissions are a reflection of their ability to tailor their service offer to meet the specific needs of different clients, incorporating strategic advice and development of property strategies from business, financial and property option appraisal and validation, feasibility studies and funding applications to a total project management service.

Working with Brunel University since 2001, Mace has been tasked with helping the client achieve a better ranking and more positive image for potential students. Perhaps the largest single project was the Isambard complex, 31,000m² of student accommodation designed to allow Brunel to seek the Quality in Tourism 'four star' facility accreditation. It is currently the largest student accommodation campus in south-east England, and Mace's project control processes helped to deliver the complex a month ahead of scheduled completion and utilising its risk and cost management expertise it delivered budget savings of approximately £2.5m.

Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum project has allowed Mace to once again prove its flexible approach to the sectors in which it works, in this instance combining expertise in both the educational and arts and culture sectors. With a track record including the British Museum's Great Court development and the Royal

Shakespeare Theatre transformation project, the Ashmolean gives Mace the chance to work on Britain's oldest public museum. The £53m Grade 1 listed building is undergoing a major refurbishment which will provide significantly upgraded environmental conditions for artifacts, improved access and navigability and a new education department to greatly enhance the facilities that are currently on offer. With high profile stakeholders, onerous planning requirements and necessary contribution from specialist designers, Mace's input allows the client to concentrate on its core activities whilst offloading the complexities of the development onto a trusted partner.

Mace's dedication to quality throughout the project lifecycle and its 'go that extra mile' ethos is proven by its active involvement in helping higher education institutions sign up to the WRAP (Waste Resources Action Programme) 'Halving Waste to Landfill' voluntary agreement. Mace is currently on the WRAP framework and helped influence clients Imperial College, London and Birmingham City University to sign the agreement this year (becoming the first universities in the country to do so).

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