

— EDUCATIONAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT

# **7 Essential Considerations For a successful Education construction project**

FROM CONCEPT TO COMPLETION

# Our 7 Considerations

1. LEARNING OUTCOMES

2. PROJECT TIMELINES

3. PARTNERSHIP

4. COMPLIANCE

5. SUSTAINABILITY

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION

7. DELIVERING ONTIME AND TO BUDGET

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# 1. Learning Outcomes

## Our why?

Maybe not where you expected us to start, but any school project needs to consider the impact it will have on the learning environment, the learning facilities and therefore the learning outcomes for your students.

Renovation and construction can consider areas such as flexible learning spaces, technology integration, specialised areas, use of natural light, signage and comfort to name just a few considerations.

By working with construction companies and their partners with education experience and understanding, willing to engage and partner with you in examining these considerations you optimise your chances of having the ideal end product.



## 2. Project Timelines

### Timing is everything right?

We all understand that running a school is an energy and resource demanding activity whether you are part of the School leadership, in governance, or administrative roles. So when there is a need to consider a building or renovation project it is easy also to leave the key decisions to the last minute. And one of those key decisions is your timeline. The timeline sweeps through conception to design, to instruction, to commencement and completion, all with educational objectives being considered and room for unforeseen challenges.

Engaging with partners like architects, engineers, and contractors early in the process ensures that all technical aspects are considered, and the project is realistic and achievable. A strong feasibility study provides a clear understanding of the project's potential risks and benefits, setting a solid foundation for a successful outcome.





## 3. Partnership

### Selecting the right partners

In any project but certainly educational refurbishments and build, where every participating partner needs to be compliant and educational outcome-focused it can be difficult to know who to select.

Usually projects are delivered by a group of companies specialising and experienced in their own areas. For example we work with companies such as Fusion Project Management to look at strategic construction consultancy, and Woodley Coles to provide cost and project consultancy. However, both are trusted partners and aligned to our values and principles.

Ultimately, successful partnerships stem from understanding each partner's unique capabilities and aligning them with project requirements. By bringing in the right mix of strategic, cost, and project-focused consultancies. On our partnerships each partner will usually look to each other or other similarly trusted companies irrespective of who has initial contact with the educational establishment.



## 4. Compliance

**The welfare of staff, students and community come first.**

It goes without saying, schools are environments primarily occupied by children and young people and it essential you have confidence that your construction firm fully comply with safety standards. It goes beyond insurance and DBS to controlled access to clear signage and appropriate fencing, compliance helps prevent accidents and maintains a secure environment during projects protecting students, staff and visitors alike. Construction in schools is often governed by strict regulations, such as those from health and safety authorities, local government codes, and fire safety standards.

In summary, compliance isn't just about meeting legal requirements—it's about fostering a safe, responsible, and trustworthy approach that supports educational institutions' mission to provide a safe learning environment.



## 5. Sustainability

### How important is it to you, your extended community and stakeholders?

There is a growing trend in education about the ethics, environmental impact and sustainability of any project, as indeed there is across many sectors. There are several factors you may want to consider and discuss with your partners in the planning phase, and in your procurement. For example;

- What is the likely impact of the project on your immediate environment?
- What is the source, and properties of the materials being used, and does that align with our values?
- Are there alternative materials and sources we could consider?
- What is the life expectancy of the project?
- Do we have a waste management plan?
- What does the legacy of the project look like?
- With your procurement, frameworks, approved contractor lists and Dynamic Purchasing Systems from companies such as Crescent Partnership Consortium can provide pre vetted suppliers which may prove beneficial.

**Your contractors should be able and willing to work with you on these key issues.**





## 6. Community Engagement and Communication

**How are you going to educate your community and how will your team communicate it?**

A school or College is very much part of a wider community. You are engaging constantly with your key stakeholders; students, staff, parents, governors, authorities and surrounding residential areas, but also with inspection and compliance organisations. It is so important and beneficial for your community to understand how the project you will undertake impacts in the wider sense. Good communication also demonstrates your commitment to the outcomes and values you work by.

It may be worth considering inviting your partners to host a talk to your community, sharing drawings and plans via email, notice boards and internal meetings and to display the intended outcomes and how they link to your values.





## 7. Delivering ontime and to budget

### Why does this matter?

For anyone undertaking a construction or renovation project, delivering on time and within the costs budgeted is a major concern. With educational projects that may well have to be completed in very tight time-frames and at certain points in the year to minimise disruption, this can become very important. Not only will your staff and students be grateful, but so also with your timetabler!

### **So what actions can you take to help ensure your project is delivered on time and within budget?**

Beyond ensuring your construction project team are aligned with your objectives and values as previously discussed there are some specific steps you can take.

Request and review a project program throughout the project, Host regular progress meetings, Review changes to the scope and what impact that has, agree the payment structure pre-project and ensure this is reviewed at each progress meeting, completion and handover documentation is key to ongoing maintenance so check all is complete.

We are proud that delivering on time and within budget is something that we have successfully built a reputation for doing.

**We wish you all the best for your future projects.**





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## Get in touch

To book an initial 15 minute chat with us please use this link -

**<https://bit.ly/AshTechEducation>**, scan the QR code or use the details below and we can arrange a convenient time for you.



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# We build your visions, with perfection

We have over 20 years' experience working within the education sector and understand the importance of refurbishment and fit out works to meet the requirements of the changing curriculum and to drive the success of rising student numbers.

Our expertise lies in delivering refurbishment and fit-out services, redevelopments, extensions and M&E upgrades creating an array of spaces such as;

- Commercials kitchens
- Toilets
- Creative arts
- Accommodation
- Staff rooms
- Clinical simulations
- Study spaces

We aim to capture our client's needs and requirements at the start of any project and to ensure that these objectives are met at every stage.

Communication is key to a good working relationship and we pride ourselves on being helpful, attentive, and motivated. A dedicated manager is appointed to each client and project to form the foundation of our successful relationships.