

Tilbury Douglas celebrates steel signing ceremony at Heywood Academy

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[Tilbury Douglas](#), a leading UK building, infrastructure, engineering and fit-out business, has celebrated a major milestone in the construction of the new Heywood Academy building with a steel signing ceremony.

Delivered on behalf of the Department for Education and designed by Ellis Williams Architects, the innovative two-storey building will provide tailored educational facilities for up to 76 pupils aged 11-19 with special educational needs (SEN).

The Heywood Academy project, to be operated by the New Bridge Multi Academy Trust, features state-of-the-art facilities. On the ground floor, there will be sensory rooms, classrooms, a food science lab, a main hall, and dining areas. The upper floor will provide classrooms for older students, a library, and a common room, ensuring a holistic and inclusive learning environment.

Outdoors, a multi-use games area, habitat zones, a forest school, and landscaped features, such as orchard trees and wildflower paths, will enhance sensory and outdoor learning. The project also prioritises sustainability, incorporating renewable energy to achieve Net Zero Carbon Neutral status.

The construction phase will contribute significantly to the local community, aiming for a 45% social value return on investment. This includes employment and training opportunities and a partnership with M3 Project, a charity supporting the homeless in East Lancashire.

Martin Horne, Divisional Director – North West at Tilbury Douglas, commented: “The steel signing ceremony is a significant moment for the Heywood Academy project. This building represents our commitment to creating high-quality, inclusive educational spaces that meet the diverse needs of SEN students. We are proud to work with the Department for Education and the New Bridge Multi Academy

Trust to deliver a facility that will have a lasting positive impact.”

Phil Shaw, Managing Director – Building North at Tilbury Douglas, added: “Tilbury Douglas’ portfolio of educational projects across the North West, including Heywood Academy, highlights our dedication to enhancing regional education. This project not only supports the needs of SEN students but also reinforces our commitment to sustainability and community enrichment.”

The ceremony brought together project stakeholders, community representatives, and members of the New Bridge Multi Academy Trust, celebrating the collaborative effort behind this transformative initiative.

The Heywood Academy is on track for completion in August 2015, promising to provide first-class facilities that will support educational excellence and community growth in the Rochdale area.