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Class Act by Hickton at Newcastle-under-Lyme College

Hickton has provided Clerk of Works services on another major new educational project. Newcastle-under-Lyme College in Staffordshire is the latest to benefit from Hickton's 'right first time' approach and now provides world class learning facilities on its £60m campus. Newcastle-under-Lyme College is situated to the North-West of the town and features an auditorium with seating capacity for 200 people and a £15m sports village with beauty salon and spa. The college is the latest in a series of educational developments that have commissioned Clerk of Works services from Hickton, including Walsall College, The University of Liverpool Department of Engineering and Redcar & Cleveland College. More recently Hickton has provided its services to Sutton Bonington Campus at the University of Nottingham along with Monkseaton Community School.

Hickton is an award winning ISO9001 Clerk of Works practice that provides highly qualified and experienced professionals to ensure that construction projects are completed as the client and design team intended. Its goal is to offer clients 'confidence in construction', which means ensuring the project meets exacting design and legislative requirements. Hickton worked closely with the consultant team to ensure Newcastle-under-Lyme College met the highest quality standard set by the client. To do this Hickton had two Clerks of Works based on site to monitor activities against the agreed specification, which covered ground works, foundations, steel frame and cladding through to fit-out and completion.

The design of the main college building posed several challenges, for example, large floor to roof glass facades had to be installed to exacting tolerances to achieve the overall BREEAM rating for the completed building. Poorly installed glass walls often lead to wasteful loss of heat, resulting in low levels of energy efficiency and a building with an unnecessarily large carbon footprint. A spokesperson from Davis Langdon, explains: "We appreciated the expertise provided by the Hickton Clerk of Works. The benefits of having an independent pair of eyes and ears on site were invaluable in helping us avoid many of the issues found on these types of project. That meant both the client and ourselves avoiding costly and time consuming remedial works. Ultimately it meant that the college was completed exactly as planned"

Newcastle-under-Lyme College opened at the end of 2009 and now provides world-class teaching facilities to over 12,000 students. Hickton has professionals based throughout the UK who provide Building and M&E Clerk of Works services along with CDMC construction Health and Safety risk management.