



CASE STUDY: EDUCATION
MINERA PRIMARY SCHOOL





Refurbishment and Extension

The school is located on a sloping site with a number of level changes within the existing school buildings. In order to improve accessibility for physically disabled children and to meet the current Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) requirements internal remodelling was undertaken to the original building to allow a platform lift and stairlift to be included. A new Junior Entrance ensured access into the building was improved with an 8 metre ramp to accommodate the site level changes. Refurbishment work was also undertaken to a number of the existing classrooms.

The extension to the main school building was carefully designed to match the existing building, with Welsh stone walls and slate roof. Detailing to the roof and stone window surrounds were also matched to the existing building. The new build Junior Entrance was more contemporary in design, with a render finish chosen to complement the existing stone walls and Welsh slate unifies the school as a whole.

Sustainability Overview

- Local Welsh Materials
 - Use of local skilled tradesmen with traditional skills
 - Sensitive refurbishment and extension to allow an existing community resource to continue to provide for the local community
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Name of Building

Remodelling and Extension to Minera
Voluntary Aided Primary School

Date Completed

July 2008

Project Cost

£580,000

Building Type

Education

Location

Minera, Wrexham

Client

Minera Voluntary Aided Primary School

Main Contractor

R. L. Davies & Son Ltd.

Building Overview

Minera School is a voluntary aided Church-In-Wales Primary School situated in the village of Minera five miles north-west of Wrexham. The school is located in a rural situation, nestled into the Welsh Hills, and provides education for local children living within the village.

The 150 year old building was in need of some attention in order to provide an adequate learning environment in the twenty first century. Through a funding package provided by the Welsh Assembly Government, a scheme was developed to adapt and extend the building to allow the school to cope with the growing number of pupils.

The work undertaken included measures to improve accessibility in and around the existing building, refurbishment to a number of classrooms, small extension to match the existing school building, and a more contemporary new build Junior Entrance extension.

Adapting the existing building was not without its problems, as during the course of the construction works dry rot and timber infestation was discovered after part of the floor to one of the classrooms collapsed. After investigation it was discovered that dry rot was evident in a further four classrooms. With additional funding provided by Wrexham County Borough Council, works to eradicate the Dry Rot were coordinated with the proposals and despite this discovery the scheme was still completed under budget.

