



PROJECT
CLIENT
VALUE
CONSULTANT

CONSTRUCTION OF BLENHEIM CHILDREN'S CENTRE
SOUTHEND BOROUGH COUNCIL
£1.2M
SOUTHEND BOROUGH COUNCIL



The project in Blenheim Primary School, in Leigh, involved the construction of a new Sure Start Children's Centre to the front of the school. The purpose-built centre includes a nursery, creche and cafe as well as community rooms for use by health teams to hold baby clinics, education teams to offer adult learning sessions and other community groups to meet, such as baby massage classes. Blenheim's governors were keen to provide the community cafe and added additional cash to the budget to enable it to go ahead.

The building incorporates environmentally friendly elements including windows glazed with Pilkington Suncool, a superior solar control system that combines high visible light

transmittance and low emissivity. To meet the local water authority's requirements and to help manage the increasing stormwater challenge a new stormwater attenuation scheme had to be incorporated into the design.

The Lakehouse team developed a good relationship with the school staff and children, involving them wherever possible and keeping them fully informed of progress. Health and safety presentations were made to the entire school and Lakehouse's company mascot, Lenny Lakehouse, was introduced to help warn the children of the dangers of playing on or near building sites.

Headteacher Marianne Turner has described the centre as *"the culmination of a ten-year vision"*.

