Hanging out in the Skills Academy

SMC Hickton Madeley flies high with iconic design for £20 million Skills Academy

A nationwide competition to design an iconic £20 million further education building for City of Bristol College has been won by a leading architecture practice in Birmingham. SMC Hickton Madeley developed the stunning concept design for the college’s new Skills Academy at Hengrove Park in South Bristol, drawing inspiration from the site’s former use as an aerodrome. The new iconic building forms a gateway to the new site and acts as a ‘shop window’ for the public into the heart of the building. The 10,800 sq m academy is set to be the spearhead of a regeneration master plan for the area that will also include a new community hospital, leisure centre, and business and residential accommodation.

Scheduled to open in late 2009, the four-storey building will provide 16-19-year-olds and adult learners with courses in vocational subjects such as hairdressing, beauty therapy, catering, construction, engineering and motor vehicle maintenance. The eco-friendly building will benefit from a passive natural ventilation and cooling system with a south-west-facing winter garden to provide a social buffer space.

**Key Facts**

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<th>Status</th>
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<td>Value</td>
<td>£0 (m)</td>
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