



Project team: Robertson Capital Projects / hub East Central Scotland, BAM Construction (contractor), BDP (architect), URS (civil & structural), Rybka (building services)

The new facility provides a community hub incorporating customer service point, public library, police touchdown, community learning & development facilities, bookable meeting/ conference spaces, enterprise units, community café as well as the secondary education provided by Waid Academy for 800 pupils.

A new all-weather pitch to World Rugby and FIFA standard has been provided and a new grass pitch will be completed within Phase 3 works.

“The old school is a well-loved building with a lot of history behind it, but the opportunities which the new building open to us are beyond compare.

This isn't just a school, it is a community building which will sit right at the heart of the community.”

Iain Hughes, Headteacher, Waid Academy

Key statistics

- **VALUE:** £22.2m
- **COMPLETION DATE:** Phase 2 - 28 April 2017
- **CONTRACT DATES:** Phase 2 - 12 June 2017
- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**
 - The contractor provided a set of strips for the hockey team and contributed to the school's Christmas shoe box appeal.
 - Careers presentations were held at local schools and 14 work placements provided to local students.
 - Local schools and colleges visited the site. Students from the school visited the structural steel factory to see steel frame sections being produced.
 - A pupil from Waid Academy employed by BAM as a trainee site manager and actually worked on the project.
 - New employment opportunities were also provided for six local residents.
- **TOTAL USERS/RESIDENTS:** 800 pupils
- **REPLACEMENT DETAILS:** Replacement for existing Waid Academy and public library located elsewhere within the town.
- **LOCAL EMPLOYEES:** 119 people from Fife Council geographic area worked for varying times on the project.



Project information

The new Community Hub has a gross internal area of 8,800m² over three floors. Construction comprised piled foundations and a structural steel frame. External walls predominately in rainscreen cladding with natural stone features. A standing seam roof with extensive glazed areas provides natural daylight within the atrium space.

The design encourages pupils to utilise the atrium space, which provides dining as well as learning pods and social gathering points.

As well as typical school classroom provision, open learning spaces are provided including an 'innovation bridge', which can accommodate up to 100 pupils in a flexible arrangement.

The public library has a dedicated team and is open to the public until 8:00pm most evenings. A café for use by the public has also been created within the library area.

Three enterprise units have been provided adjacent to the

main building providing rental opportunities for start-up businesses.

Electric bicycle charging points have been provided as part of the facility.

The main USP for the project is the close overlap and ties between the Waid and the Anstruther community, which it serves.

This is reinforced internally via the Library, Innovation Bridge and externally via the Enterprise Units. These act as business incubator units to encourage entrepreneurial spirit and also provide an educational link while offering opportunities for formal and extended work experience / skills development.

The Waid represents a further development of the deep plan concept - the internal space is flexible and incorporates a variety of learning spaces (future proof) - accommodating a wide variety of learning styles and the possibilities of project-based and experiential learning.