

London South Bank Technical College, Nine Elms STEAM Centre

Inspiring the next generation of technical talent

£27m

/ Project value

January 2021

/ The build commenced

January 2023

/ The build completed

Nine Elms STEAM Centre is a new 10,000m², state-of-the-art further education facility in Nine Elms, London. As the UK's first purpose-built comprehensive technical college in a generation, it provides specialist STEAM education and vocational training, helping thousands of young people and adults gain the skills needed for employment, apprenticeships and higher education.

The brief

South Bank Colleges required a flagship technical education facility to deliver industry-focused STEAM training in a modern, future-proof learning environment. The new campus was designed to support student wellbeing, encourage collaboration and help address growing skills shortages across key sectors.



"We are proud to have been part of delivering London's newest college, which is the first of its kind in the UK since 2007. London South Bank Technical College and STEAM centre will provide vital and diverse hi-tech skills, helping to fill the growing STEAM skills gap in London and the UK."

Rob Joyce
Development Director, GRAHAM

“Working with employers, London South Bank Technical College will give 4,000 young Londoners the hi-tech skills they need to put them at the front of the queue for in demand STEM jobs. From September our new college will give our students state-of-the-art facilities to learn new skills and build successful careers.”

Fiona Morey
South Bank Colleges Executive Principal

The challenges

Located within the busy Nine Elms regeneration area and surrounded by residential developments, the project required careful stakeholder engagement throughout construction. The project was also delivered during one of the most challenging periods for the construction industry, with COVID-19 restrictions, supply chain disruption, inflationary pressures and the impacts of the war in Ukraine affecting delivery. Maintaining programme certainty while minimising disruption to neighbouring communities required close collaboration between the client, design team, supply chain partners and stakeholders.

The solution

Delivered through the Major Works Framework managed by Pagabo, GRAHAM constructed a ten-storey STEAM centre that provides modern teaching, learning and support spaces for Construction, Science, Engineering, Dental Technology, Digital and Creative studies, IT, English and Maths. The building's distinctive double-height 'Digital Spine' creates connected, technology-enabled learning environments that encourage collaboration and informal interaction across all levels.

Designed with long-term flexibility at its core, the building incorporates adaptable teaching spaces that can evolve alongside changing curriculum requirements and emerging technologies. Delivered as a BIM Level 2 project, QR-coded construction elements linked to BIM360 provided real-time project information, enhancing collaboration between the project team, supply chain and client. Extensive engagement with local residents, including a dedicated project website and monthly newsletters, helped ensure responsible delivery within the surrounding community.

Outputs & Benefits

- / **Award-Winning Project:** Winner of a Green Apple Award 2023 recognising excellence in sustainability and environmental performance.
- / **Future-Ready Learning:** Flexible teaching spaces support evolving curriculum requirements and emerging technologies.
- / **Sustainable Design:** Achieved BREEAM Excellent and delivered a 40% improvement in energy performance over Building Regulations baseline.
- / **Waste Reduction Excellence:** Exceeded waste reduction targets by 45% and diverted 99.3% of construction waste from landfill.
- / **Social Value Delivery:** Created 33 new jobs, safeguarded 142 FTE positions and facilitated 150 weeks of apprenticeship and trainee learning.
- / **Local Economic Impact:** Generated £450,000 of local expenditure, with more than 25% of employment opportunities benefiting Lambeth residents.
- / **On Time and Budget:** Successfully delivered despite unprecedented industry challenges, including COVID-19 and supply chain disruption.



For more information on how we're delivering lasting impact:

+44 (0) 28 9268 9500 info@graham.co.uk graham.co.uk

GRAHAM