Assuring a sustainable future

EDUCATION
Welcome to
ROBERTSON

We’re one of the largest family-owned construction, infrastructure and support services businesses in the UK, and we apply the same principles to every aspect of our business today that we did over fifty years ago when Bill Robertson set up his joinery firm in Elgin.

Over the years our sustainable growth has enabled us to invest in our business, the future of people and communities, and to deliver on major projects, housing schemes and facilities management for customers nationally.

Our scale gives us the ability to accept big challenges, and build deep, mutually beneficial partner relationships. At the same time we think locally, working with stakeholders and the supply chain to deliver services and infrastructure that will stand the test of time.

Ultimately, everything we do is about making progress safely towards a sustainable future for our people, communities and our business.

It’s the Robertson Way.
Creating outstanding EDUCATION SPACES

As one of the largest family-owned construction, infrastructure and support services business in the UK, we have a long history in the further and higher education sectors with over 150 completed education projects.

Our expertise ranges from nursery and primary school facilities, through to secondary schools, academies, colleges, and higher education and university establishments.

We understand the challenges facing the education sector and these are well documented. Budgets are more restricted and there is an increasingly competitive globalised student market.

There is more emphasis on creating the right learning environment, which in turn will attract the best students to schools and universities.

Case studies

- Bertha Park High School, Perth
- Inverurie Community Campus, Inverurie
- Tullibody South Campus, Tullibody
- Merkinch Primary School, Inverness
- Portree Gaelic Primary School, Isle of Skye
- North Uist Primary School, Outer Hebrides
- Royal Grammar School, Newcastle
- Baldragon Academy, Dundee
- Goldthorpe Primary School, Rotherham
- Tayview Primary School, Dundee
- The Marvell College, Hull
Drawing on the strengths of a large and resourceful group – combined with local and specialist expertise ranging from civil engineering to M&E and render services – we can offer local authorities and education partners a service that covers the entire built environment lifecycle.

Below are some of the 22 businesses that make up Team Robertson.

**Robertson Construction**

With a host of award-winning and high-profile projects for customers in the education sector under its belt, Robertson Construction comprises a range of regional and specialist businesses.

Our comprehensive geographical coverage extends from Yorkshire and the East Midlands right up into the Scottish Highlands and Islands. Our projects include the award-winning Goldthorpe Primary School, numerous facilities in the North East, an extensive renewal of the primary and secondary schools estate for Dundee City Council, and the brand-new Bertha Park High School in Perth.

We often call upon the expertise of our sister companies and specialist divisions, ranging from civil engineering, building services, roofing, rendering and joinery to facilities management. We also have a wealth of experience in modular and offsite construction.

**Robertson Capital Projects**

Robertson Capital Projects is a project management and investment company that provides high-quality, community-based infrastructure through its long-term partnerships with public sector customers. Projects have been delivered from Hull to the Scottish Islands.

The company’s leadership role in the hub East Central Scotland framework will see the delivery of education projects in a territory ranging across seven Local Authority areas and three NHS Boards, together with blue light services, over the next 20 years.
Robertson Facilities Management

Robertson Facilities Management has grown from its public-sector roots to include a variety of commercial contracts in the private sector. We have developed a broad range of predominantly self-delivered FM services, which we now provide to more than 55,000 building users cared for by a team of over 1,500 talented employees.

Our services include mechanical, electrical and building fabric maintenance, grounds maintenance, energy management, security, cleaning, whole-life costing and space utilisation. These are available as individual service lines, as bundled services or as Total Facilities Management.

Robertson Engineering Services

Robertson Engineering Services has become a leading regional mechanical and electrical building services contractor, having built an outstanding reputation for installation and commissioning. Providing M&E services across the north of England and the Midlands, Robertson Engineering Services undertakes both traditional and design-and-build projects, including specialist trades and renewable technologies.

Robertson Specialist Division

Robertson Specialist Division provides proprietary render, plasterwork, mastic and insulated render systems. The business also incorporates an extensive specialist roofing service, undertaking tiling, slating and single-ply roofing work, and is moving into other specialist trades, such as partitioning, painting and decorating.

Robertson Timber Engineering

For over 30 years, our timber engineering business has been designing, manufacturing and erecting precision-engineered timber for education-sector projects, hotel chains, national housebuilders and construction firms right across the UK. With structural timber being the fastest-growing construction method in the UK, the business focuses on exceeding customers’ expectations and reliably meeting build programmes. Robertson Timber Engineering’s innovative products and systems provide cost- and time-savings as well as environmental benefits to our customers and end users.
This brand-new facility was created to meet the needs of the whole of Bertha Park and landward community. It can accommodate 1,100 students, including 35 pupils with additional support needs (ASN).

The facilities include a sports hall, gym, full size grass and synthetic football pitches, and an attached multi-use games area (MUGA).

The project is unique in the Scottish Government’s Schools for the Future programme, as it is an entirely new building and not a replacement for an existing school.
Technology lies at the heart of Bertha Park, which is one of only 17 schools across the globe – and the only one in the UK – selected as part of the Microsoft Flagship Schools programme.

Six work placement students were taken on, getting the opportunity to work on different aspects of the build and gain knowledge of many aspects of working on site and a live construction project.
Robertson is constructing the Inverurie Community Campus school which will be suitable for 1,600 pupils and provide a range of amenities for the wider community – including indoor and outdoor pitches, a six-lane swimming pool and a health centre. St Andrew’s School, for youngsters with additional support needs, will also be on the site.

We carry out various community engagement activities in the area such as teaching future school children about the construction process and holding committee meetings to ensure Health, Safety and Environmental standards are met.

With the Trade Route Programme, the school works closely with Robertson and our subcontractors to deliver a range of opportunities for young people including a mentoring programme for senior pupils and work experience inspiring young people into the construction industry.
“This project will result in a fantastic new campus that the whole community can be proud of. Learning and teaching in such an innovative and inspirational setting can make a real difference to education outcomes.”

John Swinney, Deputy First Minister
The new state-of-the-art Tullibody South Campus will house three educational spaces in the one place. The Campus will also act as a community hub, including a new library, meeting rooms and gym hall, which residents will have access to.

The building will accommodate approximately 440 pupils from Abercromby Primary School, 120 pupils from St Bernadette’s RC Primary School and a 140-place nursery (to be called Tulach Nursery).
The facility offers teaching rooms including an immersive room, outdoor learning areas, multifunctional spaces and artificial training pitches which are suitable for a variety of sports.

As well as constructing the new Campus, the team have created fun and interesting ways for the children of Abercromby Nursery to get involved in the project. Team Robertson modified a section of the perimeter hoarding, that interfaced with the nursery play area, to look like a castle which the children named the ‘Fly High Castle’. It included a viewing platform and viewing windows into the site giving children the chance to see the progress of the building. This was an excellent opportunity to introduce the children to the world of construction.
We are extending the Category B listed building which was built in 1876 to ensure that it can be used for future generations of pupils.

Our expansion of the school will offer an additional 14 classrooms and a three room nursery along with sports areas, playgrounds and parking.

Designs were altered to include the use of a cross-laminated timber (CLT) frame and shell, lightening the load on the ground as well as creating a superior learning environment.

As a result, savings were made on the time and cost of the development works and CLT produced a greater quality for the Highland Council.

We are working in partnership with Scape and the community, keeping them up to date on the construction of their new school.
Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Phort Rìgh is the third standalone Gaelic Medium School in the Highlands and is part of The Highland Council’s Gaelic Language Plan.

We managed the design and construction of the school for The Highland Council in partnership with the Scottish Government.

It was built to meet a growing demand from parents for access to Gaelic Medium education and as part of the Scottish Government’s commitments to support the language.

The school opened for the school year in August 2018 with 133 Primary pupils and 47 Nursery pupils, with the capacity to expand over future years.
North Uist Primary School
OUTER HEBRIDES

CUSTOMER: Comhairle nan Eilean Siar

We constructed a new-build school on North Uist in the remote Outer Hebrides of Scotland. The school co-locates pupils from three existing schools on the island and includes a nursery, multi-use games area, synthetic grass pitch and car parking.

The project was procured through the Scape National Major Works framework. Scape Group is a public sector owned built environment specialist offering a full suite of national frameworks and innovative design solutions.

Aware of the sensitivities involved in merging schools, Western Isles Council set us an objective of creating enthusiasm for the project in every community affected to generate buy-in to the process. Due to their remoteness, island communities are very close knit, so managing local sensitivities throughout was vital if the project was to be successful. Our local, Gaelic-speaking site team undertook unprecedented levels of community engagement, integrating fully into the community in a way that no mainland staff could have done.

Efficiency, communication and cooperation have been the hallmarks of the school’s experience of working with Robertson Construction. As Head Teacher I can say that working with Robertson staff has been a positive and anxiety free experience for me and for all involved in the life of the school. This has been a job well done!

Sarah Jane MacSween, Head Teacher
The school opened in August 2016 with final completion of the project in January 2017 following the demolition of the old school.

As well as engaging with the school students and staff and providing a range of work experience and apprenticeship opportunities, the site team also achieved a Silver Award from the Considerate Constructors Scheme. The project team also supported a local contractor to diversify his business into providing skip hire and waste management services to the project and beyond. The newly established business now employs two full-time staff, providing further vital job opportunities for local people.

71% of the labour force lived within 20 miles of the site.
We delivered a new building to Royal Grammar School Newcastle, one of the top private schools in the country, to support the students and teachers in their learning environment.

The new building includes an exciting state-of-the-art library, new lecture room, seminar rooms, IT hub and care centre encompassing pastoral and medical services for students - plus additional teaching space (including laboratories, effectively extending the Science and Technology Centre).

In addition to this, the building incorporates an ‘Agora’ gathering place for students to come together to exchange ideas and thoughts on their studies.
Baldragon Academy, designed by Holmes Miller, was built on the old school’s playing fields and has a capacity of up to 1,100 pupils. The school was designed around a central open plan dining and assembly space which establishes direct views between departments.

The facility includes a separate sports hall complete with its own gym and swimming pool together with artificial sports pitches, a garden and greenhouse. The irregular metal cladding of the sports hall contrasts with the school building’s standard brick.

Located beside Sidlaw View Primary School and Jessie Porter Nursery, the educational campus provides a new and innovative learning environment for pupils ranging in age from nursery children to those leaving school to follow new opportunities.
Robertson was appointed to design and build a new primary school for 3–11 year old pupils in Goldthorpe, for NPS Group, who were delivering the project for Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council in South Yorkshire.

The scheme was a 330-place, 11-classroom school, with a nursery for 26 places, and the ability to add three classrooms catering for 90 places in the future. It comprised a new steel-framed building on a brownfield site close to the existing school. During construction, the site team pulled out all the stops to bring lasting value to the community.

“...the sheer scale of the total engagement with the school and the community has to be considered innovative.”

Considerate Constructors Scheme
Goldthorpe is an ex-mining community with a high level of unemployment, resulting in higher than average levels of illiteracy.

Poverty is also a major issue for the neighbourhood, with around 20% of the students at Goldthorpe Primary School previously going to school without breakfast – until the school and our team stepped in to help.

Keen to address the problem and make sure the children could concentrate on learning, school staff came into work early and fed around 50 students every day. This was supported by our site team, who raised funds for food through their ‘Give a breakfast for the Breakfast Club’ initiative, even helping to serve the food. This approach, among other incentives, has helped to deliver the best-performing school in the area.
The two-storey, three-stream Tayview Primary School replaced the former Gowriehill and Hillside buildings as well as Menzieshill Nursery.

The building is designed for an anticipated school roll of 650 pupils. There is also a nursery school for 70 full time equivalent (FTE) three- to five-year-olds, with a separate nursery area for up to 30 (FTE) two year olds.
Robertson provide facilities management services for five schools in Hull.

We deliver site-based management, cleaning, caretaking, catering, energy management and engineering personnel including maintenance of biomass boilers and a gas combined heat and power unit.

We provide total FM for three secondary PFI schools: Winifred Holtby Academy, The Marvell College and Kingswood Academy, and two special educational needs PFI schools: Oakfield School and Tweediness School which is incorporated within the Winifred Holtby Academy building.

Hard FM services are provided for one design & build secondary school: Archbishop Sentamu Academy.

The FM team uses local resources, specialist contractors and businesses to supply goods and materials keeping a large portion of the investment within Hull and the surrounding area, benefiting the local communities in which we serve.
We work closely with local communities, giving them a voice and working in a transparent way that builds trust and real relationships.

We’re passionate about having a positive effect on communities. Whether it’s delivering much-needed infrastructure, investing locally in talent and skills, or working with our customers, suppliers and partners to support the local and national economy, we take pride in transforming places knowing there is a greater purpose to what we do.

We understand that quality of life in any community is closely linked to taking pride in places and buildings. That’s why we work on projects that mean a lot to people, such as schools and nurseries - creating learning opportunities along the way and making sure we do it sustainably.

Because we are a family business with strong roots in its own community, it’s important to us that we leave a positive lasting legacy everywhere we work for communities to flourish in the future.

Communities
LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

Pupil involvement at Bertha Park, Perth.
Students from Hong Kong visiting Bertha Park, Perth.

Nursery children watching progress through a specially designed viewing window.

Site visits for pupils at Goldthorpe Primary School, Rotherham.

Students at Tullibody Campus prepare for their ‘hut’ project.