

Case Study

Prince Albert School visits Carillion



The Carillion Building team at Birmingham Business Park 4500 invited children from class 5B at Prince Albert School along to their site. The aim of the day was to let the children experience what it was like to work in the building industry.

Date	March 2002
Location	Birmingham, UK.
Client	Arlington Securities plc
Main Contractor	Carillion Building

Design and construction of a three-storey office block at Birmingham Business Park.

Business Benefits

- Stopping children playing on construction sites.
 - 8 members of staff giving up their day for, which is at least £800 in kind to the community.
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The Prince Albert School is local to the site and the Carillion Building team organised a day of mixed activities for the children. The children met a variety of people that are always part of building projects, such as bricklayers, engineers and health and safety officers. They then helped the children with their tasks for the day.

Before they could start, the health and safety risks were explained. Children often see building sites as large playgrounds but they are obviously full of dangers. This was re-emphasised later in the day with one of the tasks. They had to complete a worksheet on dangers they could identify by looking across the site. Although they were learning the focus was on making it fun and enjoyable.

One of the tasks the children really seemed to enjoy was building a wall.

As well as learning the practicalities of making a wall stand up, they were able to get their hands messy and actually build their own bit of wall. All with the help of Mick Heir, their brickwork expert.

The final task day was for the children to sketch the building structure as they saw it. Members of the Carillion Building Team, including Noreen Connolly and Jenna Bick, gave them some advice. At the end of the day a small prize was given for the best sketch.

Many Carillion staff were involved in making sure the children had a good day and were able to learn something from it. It was important to get the children thinking about the opportunities in the construction industry and also the dangers attached to living near a building site.