

## The Optimum Education Solution

Light steel framing is used in offsite construction for a wide range of building types and can be developed in the form of panelised or volumetric modular systems. Steve Thompson, MD of EOS Facades – specialists in the design, manufacture and supply of a wide range of steel section solutions - shares his views on why offsite manufacture is vital to the education sector

The second phase of the Priority School Building Programme (PSBP2) presents a major opportunity for offsite construction to play a crucial role to help meet the challenging targets. One of the most frequently cited benefits of offsite construction is speed of delivery, with the time required to construct and commission an offsite building being typically reduced by 50 – 60 per cent in cases where large elements can be prefabricated. Our robust High Bay Walling systems can be used internally to provide single span stud walls up to 10m high providing an ideal solution for projects such as school sports halls and auditoriums.

I see volumetric modular systems playing an even greater role in PSBP2, this phase represents one of the biggest opportunities for modular construction in the market. The combination of accelerated handover times combined with reducing repair and maintenance



costs throughout the lifecycle of the building, are two major financial advantages to offsite construction which are particularly important to the education sector.

Our approach to design and value engineering is inclusive - working side-by-side with our clients and their designers to create a complete solution incorporating design with structural calculations. Steel offers architects' greater versatility than other building solutions, particularly in terms of cost. Productivity advances have been achieved throughout the steel supply-chain

and such cost saving benefits can be shared with contractors.

The manufacture of steel in factory controlled conditions enhances build programmes and eradicates the risk of onsite variability. As an advanced high performance offsite solution, steel is not susceptible to shrinkage, warping, cracking, rot infestation or moisture absorption. Steel is a robust, rigid and dimensionally stable material that does not suffer from movement created by moisture related issues and is perfectly positioned to meet demands of the Priority School Building Programme – it is future proof and future ready.

To find out more about EOS Facades' and meet the team, come along to Explore Offsite Education taking place on 11 July 2017 at Altitude, Westminster, London.

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