

Lighting that caused headaches

At a glance

The Scenario

Hounslow Junior School had the same lighting for years and an on site survey revealed some was not to prescribed standards

The Challenges

Working within the tight budgets of the school and restricted time frame of the school holidays.

The Result

“The lights are now so much better, they are bright but do not cause glare which results in a headache. It is off the scale in improvement,”

Sky Electrical

Sky Electrical has been established for over 60 years and are a member of the National inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting. This membership allows them to self certify all their work to BS7671 and Part P of the Building Regulations.

www.skyelectrical.co.uk

When Marion Rowe, the finance officer of Hounslow Junior School, invited Sky Electrical to replace an old strip light in one classroom, she had no idea that she would end up improving the lighting across the entire school.

Sky Electrical’s electricians noticed that the school was regularly calling them in to maintain and repair the lights so suggested a free on site lighting assessment. The survey revealed that the strip lights that the school had were too old and inefficient and in addition the lighting provision in three classrooms were not to prescribed standards and should be replaced. The company also recommended installing sensors which automatically switch the lights off when the classroom is empty, to help save energy.

“We know that poor lighting affects children’s learning so when the engineer said that the lighting in three classrooms was not up to scratch we were keen to rectify the problems,”

said Marion Rowe.

“We are obliged to go through a tender process so Sky Electrical had no guarantee that they would win the work. Yet, they provided us with a very full brief of what needed to be done which enabled us to go to two other companies for quotes.”

“Rather than just come in and doing a quick fix up they made suggestions and were thinking about the long term. They gave us professional advice in language we could understand and made us feel confident in the work they were doing,”

Marion Rowe
Finance Officer
Hounslow Junior School

Sky Electrical’s tender was the most competitive and they worked throughout the summer holidays in 2009 to complete the project working with other contractors on the site who were undertaking a new build project at the same time.

Sky Electrical’s strategic approach and their obvious expertise impressed the school which has 404 children aged between seven and 11.

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they were doing,” said Marion Rowe.

And once on site, the school was delighted with their workmanship.

“They keep to their time scales and they keep to the quoted price. We find they give us value for money and we can rely on them to arrive at the time they say they are going to, do with job and leave with little impact on the rest of the school. They are our company of choice,” says Marion.

Whilst it is too soon to establish cost savings, the school is satisfied that the new lighting system has brought great benefit to both teachers and pupils.

“Before the new lighting was installed by SE no-one had realised that the old lights had been causing headaches when you sat under them for a long period of time. However, we have noticed a big difference since the SE installation. The lights are now so much better, they are bright but do not cause glare which results in a headache. It is off the scale in improvement,” explains Marion Rowe

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