

Larkhill firm's £4m college makeover

A LARKHILL-BASED company has carried out a £4m facelift on a college that is being hailed as an “eco-triumph”.

D&B Facades, which is based in The Packway, took just 21 weeks to give the tired 1950s buildings at Bournemouth & Poole College a 21st century makeover.

The work was made possible after the college won a capital renewal grant of £1.4m from the Government's Skills Funding Agency, with the balance of the cost coming from the college's own resources.

The company re-clad the exterior of the main building and restructured the Learning Resource Centre, as well as building an additional layer of insulation to the outer building, carrying out roofing improvements and installing modern double glazing.

Heat energy consumption in the building will be reduced by up to 70 per cent and its carbon footprint has been significantly reduced.

By **Corey Ross**
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Dr Iain Crowder, director of business development at D&B Facades, said: “The key point is that heating energy costs continue to rise rapidly and are a considerable expense.

“The capital will actually be paid back from heating energy savings alone, long before the 60-year expected life of the aluminium rain screen.”

The work follows a similar project by the company at the mechanical engineering department at Imperial College, London.

They also took on two of the college's students, Josh Bayliss and Ben Kinsey, on a work experience programme during the project.

Ken Roberts, executive director of resources at the college, said: “D&B Facades, with its ‘can do’ attitude, has made the process as trouble-free as possible, ensuring that phase one has been achieved

within the budget, with minimum disruption, while the building has remained fully operational.”

