Lagan College

1. Asset information

Lagan College is Northern Ireland's first planned, integrated, all ability, co-educational college. It is located in South Belfast, in an area of natural beauty, beside the Cregagh Glen. The college was established in 1981 by pioneering parents, who chose to educate their children together.

Education

As a leading school in Northern Ireland, it prides itself on being student-centered and a place where wellbeing and mental health is at the heart of all that is done.

It is committed to enabling each student to reach their learning potential and achieve success in all its forms.

2. Impact

− The school provides c.1,460 pupils with access to secondary education in an effective learning environment. Lagan College aims to educate to the highest standards Catholics, Protestants and others of goodwill, of all abilities, together.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

3. Awards and certifications

− Awarded its 6th Eco Schools Green Flag Award in June 2023

− The school has been awarded a 3 start BREEAM certificate

− The school has a C rating for the Display Energy Certificate (DEC)

4. Environment

GHG emissions

Lagan College was recently named an Eco-School Ambassador, an exceptional honour and a great validation of the work done by the Eco team. Minister for the Environment Mark Durkan presented the team with their Ambassadorial accreditation at a ceremony.

Here is what Eco-Schools had to say about being an Ambassador: "With exceptional levels of pupil leadership and whole school support, Ambassador Eco-Schools work to ensure sustainability is embedded into the curriculum. As an Ambassador they have successfully delivered change in the culture of the school. An Eco-Schools Ambassador will be able to demonstrate successful pupil and community interaction and are supporting and sharing information and advice with other schools and the wider community."

Climate risk

The project was screened to evaluate the potential physical impacts from climate change based on 'Paris-aligned' (RCP2.6 ~+1°C) and 'High emissions' (RCP8.5 ~+3.7°C) scenarios across three time periods (2020, 2050 and 2100). The project maintains a Low physical climate risk score under both scenarios.

Waste & Water

The management services provider continues to monitor waste and water consumption and is actively exploring opportunities to reduce them wherever possible.

Biodiversity

The asset is built in compliance with local environmental regulations. The school is built in a National Trust site, and has a nature walk adjacent to the site, which is regularly utilised by the students and staff of the school.

During the concession period, the Portfolio Company focuses on promoting restoration efforts to improve degraded or removed ecosystems that act as natural carbon sinks and can improve resilience to climate-related damages, such as:

- Bird boxes to create habitats for indigenous bird species
- BBGI sponsored the planting of over 100 indigenous trees to mark the 40th anniversary of the school. 40 trees were planted for every year the school has been open, and 1 tree was planted to represent each integrated school in Northern Ireland.

Additionally, the Portfolio Company has a Biodiversity policy in place.

5. Social

Health & Safety

Health and safety is on the agenda each board meeting. Our asset managers work actively with the Portfolio Company or its management service providers, to promote a strong health and safety culture, facilitate the sharing of best practices.
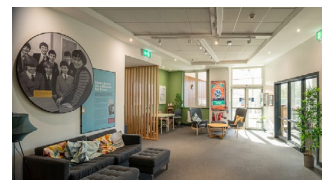
We endorse a zero-tolerance approach to occupational health and safety incidents. Additionally, the Portfolio Company has a Health & Safety policy in place and conducts a fire or health and safety audit annually.

Diversity

Not applicable as the Portfolio Company does not employ any staff.

Impact for local communities

Lagan College is Northern Ireland's first planned, integrated school having been founded in 1981 by a small group of pioneering parents, who wished to educate their children together in a different way. Lagan College is a planned and intentional, integrated school and is committed to nurturing and developing each individual child, irrespective of their cultural background, faith or none, ability level, politics, gender or family unit.

6. Governance

Delegation & oversight

The Portfolio Company directors review on a quarterly basis comprehensive board report, including both general project management and financial management. The project has a rigorous governance structure in place with quarterly board meetings, ad-hoc meetings when required and an authority delegation matrix to the management services provider.

The Portfolio Company has robust ESG policies and procedures in place and clear board-level responsibility to monitor their application. The ESG standard policies include:

- Biodiversity policy
- Code of Conduct, including anti-bribery, anti-corruption and non-discrimination
- Conflict of interest (opening agenda item including a declaration of any conflict of interest in the quarterly board meeting)
- Cyber-security
- ESG
- Health and safety (workplace accident prevention)
- Anti-slavery & Human Trafficking policy (Modern Day Slavery)
- Rapid escalation
- Responsible contractor
- Tax
- Whistleblowing

The Portfolio Company holds frequent meetings with the public sector client to promote collaboration, coordination and integration of operations.

Reporting

The Portfolio Company uses a quarterly board pack, reporting to the board of directors on the operational and financial performance of the project and compliance with its obligations and regulation/legislation, including the policies.

Additionally, the Portfolio Company reports annually into BBGI's ESG KPI survey, which composed of 100+ data points, covering all aspects of ESG oversight.

Cyber security

Portfolio Company and its subcontractors continuously monitor that the cyber security policy is in place and perform information risk analysis and develops mitigating measures. They have a robust and comprehensive IT backup system in place. Additionally, the Portfolio Company has a Cyber security policy in place.

Contact

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