

**case-study**

**bromsgrove  
school  
worcestershire**

**seamless** **TM**



Argeton Terracotta Rainscreen

natural stone

Vobster cast stone

Forticrete architectural masonry

natural roof slates



# breathing new life into a dated school environment

Bromsgrove School, near Birmingham, is one of the UK's leading private schools, with a history dating back to the 16th century. The Good Schools Guide, proclaims the school as one that “inhabits the academic stratosphere”.

Working in partnership with



Some five years ago, Taylor Maxwell was contacted by the architects at Robothams, who had been commissioned to breathe new life into the beautiful, but, dated school environment.

A new science block was required, to replace the old facilities which the school said had become “tired and cramped; unworthy of a front rank institution”.

A new sports hall and pavilion, boarding house and hospitality venue were to follow, with each building demanding the highest standards and designed to fit in seamlessly with the existing architecture. The school added: “At Bromsgrove, aesthetics have been treated as seriously as academics.”

TM supplied a range of materials for the projects that have developed over the last five years, from Argeton Terracotta Rainscreen, natural stone, Vobster cast stone, Forticrete architectural masonry and natural roof slates.



The architects produced an innovative but sympathetic design using similar palettes of materials to the older campus buildings.

TM was approached thanks to its long-standing relationship with Robothams, and asked for a unique brick blend in order to match the school's demanding requirements.

Natural, oolitic limestone was sourced from a local quarry, while a three-colour mix of bricks was identified.

Meanwhile, Argeton cladding was used on the main walls of the new sports hall, while the natural slate roof tiles were used on the new boarding house.

TM-sourced materials therefore make up a significant amount of the overall development of the school - even some internal brickwork inside the hospitality venue has been provided by us.



The school governors had been particularly harsh in their description of their environment before work started.

Hard on the heels of 18 new and refurbished science laboratories in the Senior School, the remaining projects are on course for completion.

“The architects came to us for our expertise,” says TM’s Mark Lintin. “We have worked with Robothams for the last 20 years now. They trust us to do the job well.

“The school is very particular about what was used and they are very happy with what we have delivered.”

“TM have been able to provide a variety of products that have gone a long way to improve the aesthetic appearance of the school buildings.”



**“we have worked with Robothams for the last 20 years. They trust us to do the job well”**



“Speller Metcalfe has a long standing relationship with Taylor Maxwell and have worked together on many projects. The unique aspect of Bromsgrove School was the variety of different products that Taylor Maxwell supplied to this project. Much of the leg work was done by Taylor Maxwell when dealing with Robothams architects initially, in terms of product selection, but supplying the materials to site when needed was carried out efficiently and effectively with minimal fuss.”

**Andy Bruton**  
**SpellerMetcalfe**





**TM** / TAYLOR MAXWELL  
The mark of choice.

## praise indeed

Andrew Foster from Robothams Architects praised the role TM has played in the projects.

“The practice have worked with Mark Lintin for more than 20 years, and the projects at Bromsgrove School have offered the perfect opportunity to incorporate a number of Taylor Maxwell products to soften the contemporary designs with a range of traditional materials.

“The use of cast and natural stone, terracotta rainscreen cladding and facing brickwork all work to blend the projects with the context, which includes buildings going back to the 15th century.

“Taylor Maxwell supported in the co-ordination and setting out of a range of the facade treatments including the complex curved stone plinth for a sculpture installed earlier this year. The project was completed in May 2012 and opened to considerable praise both for the architectural design and the quality of the building’s construction.”

**Andrew Foster**  
Robothams Architects



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