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Spectacular new building for Oxford Street Leederville

Commercial construction company Badge has been awarded a \$4.2 million contract to build a three level gymnasium for Aranmore Catholic College.

The new facility will occupy a 1,700 sqm site on the corner of Oxford and Franklin Streets in Leederville.

Enhancing the Oxford Street facade will be a large integrated artistic screen comprising folded panels that will allow different colours to be seen through it as pedestrians and motorists pass by. Coloured lights will back-light the screen at night.

Designed by Franco Carozzi Architects the spectacular building integrates zig zag facades and staggered windows to add visual interest from Franklin Street and the eastern facade of the building.

The main gymnasium on the ground floor features a 760 square metre sprung wooden floor of highly durable Eastern States Blackbutt. A fully equipped stage allows the facility to be used for school assemblies.

Also on the same level are storerooms, change rooms and the school's breakfast club with its own kitchen.

On the upper level is a weights room, viewing gallery, staff offices and a class room. An elevator services the ground and upper levels.

A uniform shop and meeting room open onto Oxford Street on the lower ground floor.

Earthworks have commenced and the building is expected to be completed by the end of 2012.

Badge State Manager, Robert Woodforde, said the company had built an impressive portfolio of work in the education sector having completed more than \$50 million of projects for 12 schools, colleges and universities over the past two years.

"The Aranmore College project provides some construction challenges including a sharply sloping site and the frontage onto one of the busiest streets in Perth," Mr Woodforde said. "Our contract includes the demolition of existing buildings plus excavations and the construction of a reinforced concrete retaining wall."



Construction of the new building will utilise structural steel, concrete, brick work and compressed fibre cement sheeting.

Project architect Alan Hayden said the building was designed to interact with people on Oxford Street while being visually formal, but presenting a more playful and softer look on the sides facing the other school buildings.

Aranmore Principal Jim Elliott said the new facility will provide an enormous boost to the College and is another significant step in the growth and development of Aranmore Catholic College.

This project comes as a result of much hard work by present and past members of the College Board over the past eight years.

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