

New Washington School opt for 'one stop' sourcing

After considering tenders from a number of sources, one of the flagships of Sunderland City Council's Building Schools for the Future scheme - the new Washington School, appointed SportsArt Fitness UK to supply and install a range of cardio and strength training equipment into the school's new fitness room.

Washington School Business Manager, Mrs Tina. Hannant reported, "We spent time reviewing the ranges of different equipment available from several sources and spoke with other schools including the Cardinal Hume School at Gateshead, whose Head Teacher was encouraging and positively recommended SportsArt Fitness equipment and after sales service.

As the facilities were to be used by students and staff, the right product selection was essential and this had to be strong, reliable, simple to operate and maintain. Once we had decided on the type of equipment preferred, we drafted a shortlist of companies and invited companies to tender.



SportsArt Fitness UK was enthusiastic and liaised closely with our PE staff before taking us to another site to view equipment in use. Using their experience of working with health clubs and other educational establishments, they quickly identified with our needs and assisted in planning the fitness room layout to maximise on available space.

SportsArt supplied several cardio and strength fitness training stations including two treadmills, an XT20-trainer, elliptical and upright bikes; plus, chest, shoulders and arms apparatus to provide an excellent balanced training circuit within our budget.

Apart from SportsArt submitting a competitive tender, we found that negotiating with one company for gym design, supply of quality fitness equipment, provision of training and most importantly after sales service – this was easy to control and simplified discussions. Dealing with a 'one-stop' source also removes any possible future difficulties in terms of responsibilities for maintenance and service.

Since the installation was successfully completed the equipment has performed well and both students and staff enjoy using the facilities to improve their fitness. Students even stay behind after school to use the room!

We found SportsArt to be enthusiastic, easy to engage with and would have no hesitation in recommending them to other schools considering investing in new fitness equipment."

