

THE BRIEF

## CASE STUDY

### HORSFORTH SCHOOL

*Opportunity and achievement for all*



Horsforth School & Sixth Form in Leeds, West Yorkshire has become oversubscribed and needed to expand because of this. The vision was to recreate their sixth form facility to be an elite space, rivalling the very best of colleges, whilst meeting the needs of students and being used for multiple purposes including lectures, performing arts, lunches, and film nights.

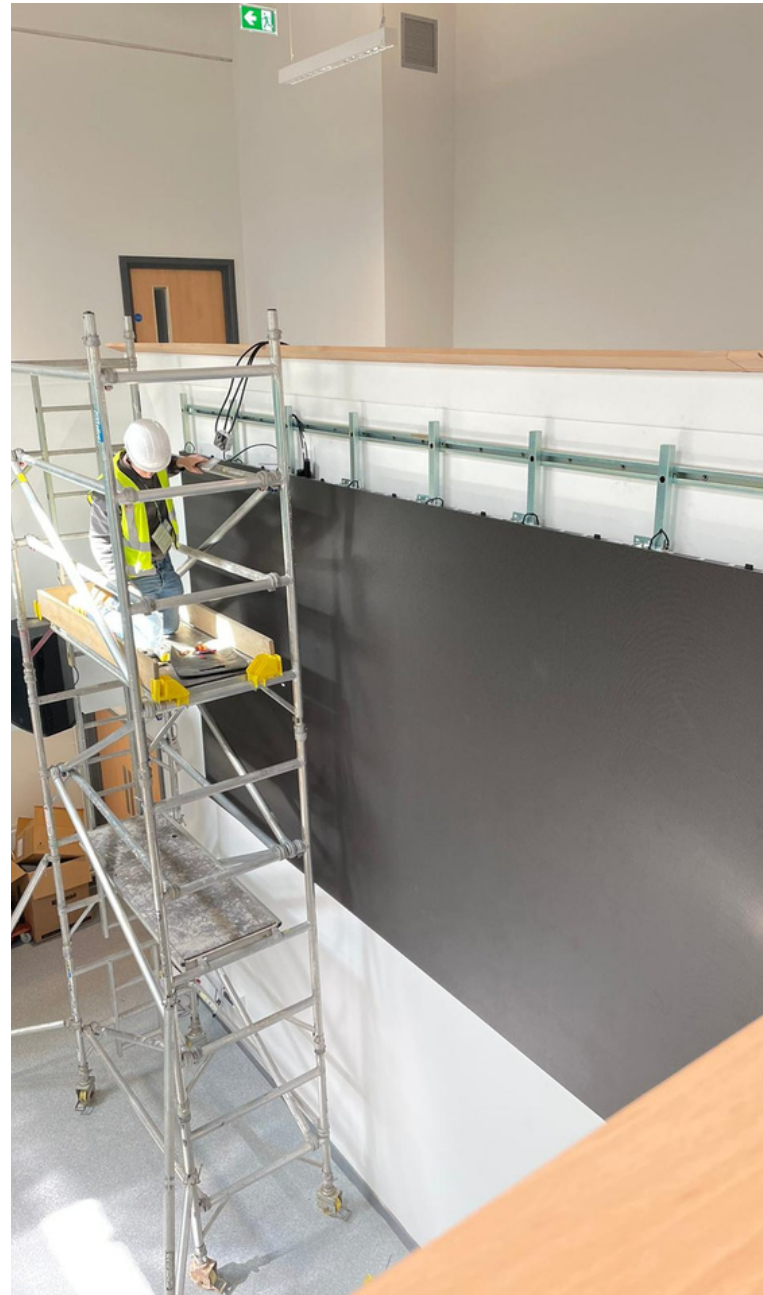
The project was being run and managed by the education consultancy Moxton Education. Computeam successfully won the tender to support the school help achieve their vision and ensure the best possible result.

Providing the network, infrastructure and classroom audio visual solutions, the scope of works also included design, supply, and installation of a display solution for the multi-use atrium space within the facility.

The Computeam lead on this element of the project, Cris Cadby (CCO) decided to engage their long-term specialist audio visual integration partners, Visualization, to assist with the specification, design, and supply of products.

The proposal began as a projection enquiry, but the space had a large amount of natural light as a two-storey open plan area. Lighting levels proved crucial in this teaching environment, to ensure the correct focus on learning and performance of its students.

With high ceilings and a gallery around it leading to classrooms, this also created acoustical difficulties. Additionally, to this, the project required included full room control, a presentation area and a complete audio system including multiple speakers and microphones.



Options for a DVLED wall and LCD Video wall were also provided at quotation stage. Of which, the budget ranged substantially, leaving the school to assess the options provided and which one would be the most suitable for the facility. Substantially following numerous consultations, Computeam & Visualization arranged a visit to a customer showroom in Manchester, to enable The Horsforth School to physically see and evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of each technology.



After reviewing comprehensive AutoCAD designs and with very careful consideration, the school decided to proceed with the Macropix DVLED full HD resolution video wall with complete surround sound at 4.877m x 2.743m wide.

Providing a seamless image, the Macropix DVLED solution was chosen for its brightness and clarity under high ambient light conditions, which was a significant consideration within the school's project brief.

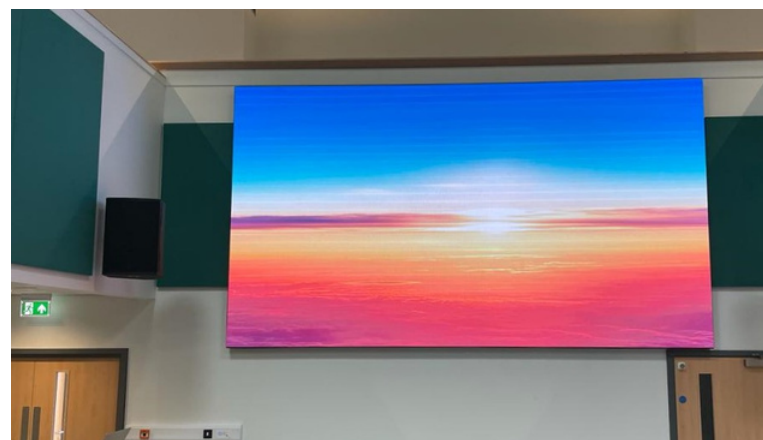
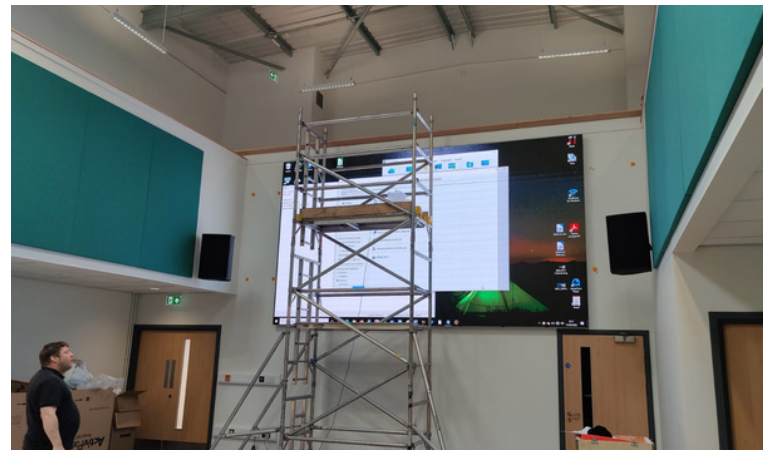
The DVLED solution is modular, creating a seamless image and superior viewing experience, which combined with the longevity of the technology also influenced the decision to make it the most suitable solution for the education environment.

For the audio requirements of the project, a sound reinforcement system was designed to provide media playback for content displayed on LED screen as well as presentation speech. Elements of this include a Powersoft Quattrocanali 1204 (4-channel) Audio Amplifier to drive four separate speakers (two larger speakers at front of hall and two smaller for reinforcement at the rear).

A Symetrix Radius NX 12x8 handled all digital signal processing for the system allowing for mixing of microphone signals, implementation of an external sources when required and management of all routing, equalisation, limiting of the system.

A simple SY Electronics multi button keypad control system was also specified, enabling the user to select sources and adjust audio level in the room.

The 27u rack system was specified to house the hardware required to deliver the solution. This included the LED driver, wireless microphones, network switch, audio amplifier and loudspeakers.



It was vital for the school to compare energy uses versus lifetime in the consultation stages. Although it was more expensive for the initial set up costs with the DVLED solution, it will save money in the long run and gives a much higher quality audio-visual experience.

The cutting-edge facility will also support the school in generating revenue from outside conferencing and events.

**Strong project management and coordination between the Computeam, Visualization, Moxton Education and the main contractor Morgan Sindall were fundamental to the project's success.**



***From Dr. Paul Bell,  
Headteacher,  
The Horsforth School***

"We're aiming for these fantastic new facilities to support large lecture hall delivery, and at the same time, give that high-quality audio-visual experience for larger events—hopefully to expand our lettings and to use it as a conferencing facility. All schools need to generate income at the moment.

It's really important that this space is multi-use, so we need to use it for lecture hall delivery. It will also allow us to be in a situation where we have these very special events where we get to get everybody up from the local community, and hopefully, form those special relationships and links.

The students have been very excited about it and were very much looking forward to seeing it. From the quality of the screen, you can use detailed diagrams on the LED wall, and it's got as good if not better resolution from the screens in the classrooms."



***From Chris Brittan,  
Business Dev't Director,  
Visualization***

"Working with Computeam to deliver a collaborative teaching and social experience to The Horsforth School was exciting and unique project for Visualization. It is rare to see such large-scale leading LED video wall technology in an education environment and we embraced the opportunity to work together to specify, design and transform this facility."

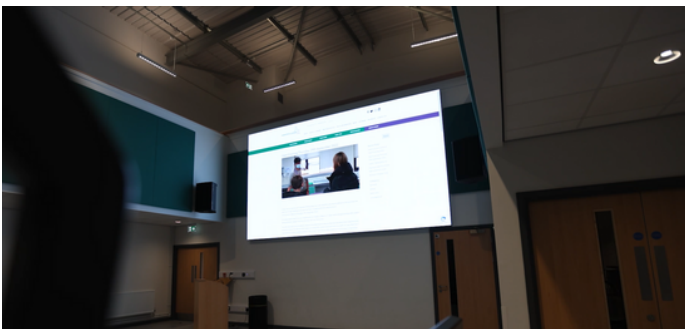


***From Cris Cadby,  
CCO,  
Computeam***

"I was delighted to be engaged in this project from the outset, having worked in the EdTech sector for over 20 years I was very excited to work with such a forward thinking school who were willing and open to look at a cutting-edge technological solution to fulfil their needs.

It was clear to me that engaging early with our specialist integration partners Visualization was key to the success of this project, not only do they bring all the technical expertise their account managers assisted hugely in the sales cycle and enabled the all-important user experience to visit to the showrooms which really helped our client reach their decision.

The system is one the school should rightly be proud of, and we really look forward to hearing how they use the space over the years."



## Watch it here

[Click here to view the video case study including time lapse of the project.](#)

## Snippets

Visualization provided the following trade services:



Design



Product supply



Installation



Rackbuild, testing & commissioning



Aftersales service & support

## Product Focus



LED Hardware



Macropix 2.5mmPP (HD) LED



Array Dimensions 4877m x 2743  
/Resolution 1920x1080



Imaginis-H2.5 cabinets, Ultra -  
ADV500, Ultra - DVI2000